

Primary Subject Knowledge Enhancement (SKE)

Information Sheet

NCP18-20



Overview

There is more to subject knowledge than being able to do the maths yourself. The Primary SKE Work Group develops primary teachers' mathematical subject knowledge so they can understand, teach and support pupils effectively. A key focus is not only improving the participants ability to 'do' mathematics but also to ensure they have the appropriate pedagogical knowledge to teach their pupils well.

Work Groups will explore maths in depth, making connections between topics and concepts. Participants will also work collaboratively, led by a local leader of maths education (LLME) to develop deep and secure subject knowledge and appropriate pedagogy.

Who is this for?

All primary teachers. It is most suitable for those with 2+ years' experience.

What is involved?

- Five half day sessions on the following themes:
 - Reasoning, Counting and Algebra
 - Language and Place Value
 - Additive Structures
 - Multiplicative Structures
 - Fractions
- Independent study and setting-based work including gap tasks and evaluation
- Online discussion as part of a professional community

Intended Outcomes

As a result of this project, participants will not only be able to 'do' mathematics but will also have the appropriate pedagogical knowledge to teach their pupils well. Teachers will develop both their knowledge about mathematics and knowledge about the teaching of mathematics, developing better pedagogy and being aware of how pupils learn and how to teach the content most effectively.

Classroom practice will develop through participants' engagement with gap tasks between meetings, trying out activities with their pupils to promote understanding, reasoning and fluency. Planning for teaching, learning and assessing will be improved.

The wider context

Collectively, the network of Maths Hubs across England work on projects around national maths education priority areas. One of those priorities requires Maths Hubs to provide high quality training in teacher subject knowledge in mathematics, and to ensure that pedagogy is closely linked with subject knowledge. Each Maths Hub participating in a national project runs a local Work Group, where teachers come together over a period of time to work on areas defined by the project. All Work Groups are subject to a common evaluation process, which collectively provides a body of evidence on the project's outcomes. So, your participation in this Work Group will contribute to your own professional learning, and that of your school colleagues, as well as making a contribution to the improvement of maths education at a national level. This Work Group extends work started in the 2017-2018 national project of the same name.

Expectations of participants and their settings

Participants are expected to be working as classroom teachers. All participants are expected to attend all the sessions and complete gap tasks in their schools between the sessions. They will also be asked to keep a learning log for their own use and contribute to the national evaluation process, probably through a short online survey after the Work Group has finished.

Funding

There is no charge to participate in this work group.

Who is leading the Work Group

Doncaster: Judith Copley – judithcopley@clifton-partnership.org

Sheffield: Magdalene Lake – mlake@lake-learning.co.uk

Rotherham: Michael Gouldin – olsmgouldin@rgfl.org

If you're interested, what next?

Please contact the appropriate work group leader (see above) by email to register your interest in engaging with this workgroup.