

## **SYMH Secondary Update**

**December 2017**

*Is it too early to say “Merry Xmas”? – the Chancellor of the Exchequer certainly highlighted Maths Education for some early presents as increased funding for professional developments were announced. Whilst head teachers have rightly pointed out this a fraction of required educational funding, nevertheless continued support for maths education is at least an excuse to raise a glass of festive cheer. In this month’s edition of Update, there are still a few work groups and professional development opportunities not yet started that are available to join and I particularly want to draw your attention to the Teaching for Mastery in Secondary launch dates, which herald the start of a much larger programme for coming years.*

*Best wishes.*

*Pete*

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### **Work groups for 2017/8 (start dates in brackets)**

Teaching for Mastery in Secondary

Hard to teach GCSE topics (various start dates)

Addressing GCSE resits (6<sup>th</sup> Dec)

Mathematical thinking at GCSE (7<sup>th</sup> Dec)

Incorporating Technology (18<sup>th</sup> Jan)

### **Other professional development opportunities**

Critical thinking (25<sup>th</sup> Jan & 23<sup>rd</sup> Mar)

### **Student enrichment**

2018 Maths Feasts for y10 (6<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> Mar)

### **Teaching for mastery programme (11<sup>th</sup> Dec, Barnsley & 14<sup>th</sup> Dec, Sheffield)**

South Yorkshire is lucky enough to have six secondary teaching for mastery specialists within our region, four of whom are sponsored by SYMH. Consequently a number of teacher research groups (TRGs) will be available across the region throughout the year for schools to engage in. These will include collaborative planning sessions as well as lesson observations and reflections.

This month, the launches to this programme provide an opportunity to observe and engage with a teaching for mastery designed lesson.

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December: Horizon Community College, Barnsley**

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December, Notre Dame High School, Sheffield**

Each afternoon event will follow a similar structure that exemplifies how the specialist teacher research groups will be run in 2018.

- Explanation of the lesson design and how this fits with Teaching for Mastery principles.
- Lesson/learning observation
- Post lesson professional reflection and discussion

To express an interest in attending either of the two events please contact [psides@symathshub.org.uk](mailto:psides@symathshub.org.uk) or for further details [click here for link](#) to SYMH website

### **Hard to teach GCSE topics (three local venues available)**

This is part of a national initiative in which colleagues are encouraged to collaboratively develop strategies to address specific topics. Strategies and resources will be freely shared and whilst there will be an element of “quick wins” considered, the longer term implications for learning at KS3 will also be reviewed.

With work groups starting in **Barnsley (4<sup>th</sup> Dec), Sheffield (5<sup>th</sup> Dec) & Rotherham (12<sup>th</sup> Dec)** this is a great opportunity to get involved.

[Click here for link to SYMH website and further details](#)

### Addressing the new GCSE resits (start date 6<sup>th</sup> Dec)

An opportunity to work with colleagues from schools and colleges to address the issues around students re-taking the new GCSE.

The impact of the new curriculum on existing strategies will be discussed and there will be the opportunity for reflecting and reviewing the issues around successful practices as well as sharing and trialling resources.

[Click here for link to SYMH website and further details](#)

### Mathematical thinking and the new GCSE (start date 7<sup>th</sup> Dec)

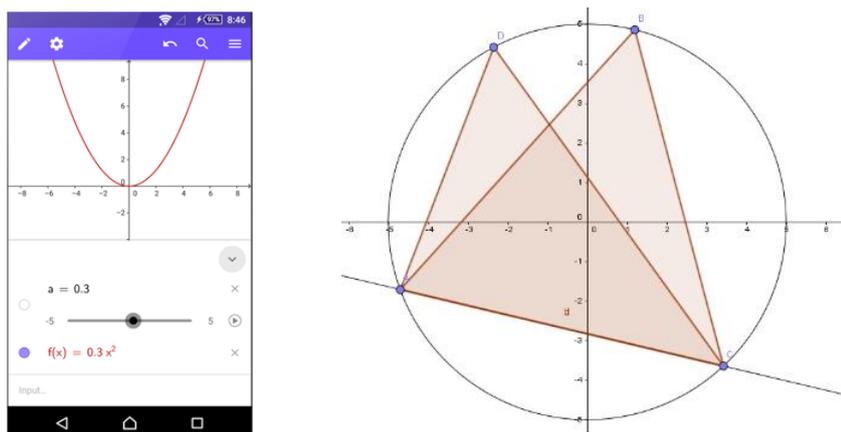
Developing this element of the curriculum that underpins much of what is taught has been a challenge for many schools. This work group aims to address the issues that teachers can sometimes find frustratingly difficult to engender in their learners but is increasingly essential for learners to develop if they are to realise their potential.

[Click here for link to SYMH website and further details](#)

### Using Technology in the classroom (New start date 18<sup>th</sup> January Sheffield)

***NB there will be a further Doncaster based cohort later in the year.***

This work group will focus on developing strategies and resources to support teachers at GCSE and beyond to incorporate this aspect into everyday teaching.



This will include resource development and trialling ideas out in the classroom followed by collaborative reflection and review. In particular the use of Geogebra as a tool for graphing, geometric modelling and a statistical analysis is investigated.

[Click here for link to SYMH website and further details](#)

## **FREE Professional Development opportunity**

### **Critical Thinking (25<sup>th</sup> Jan & 23<sup>rd</sup> Mar)**

The British Council has collaborated with the NCETM to offer this **free** course at **Notre Dame High School, Sheffield** to support and help you to explore practical ways of developing and implementing the fundamental elements of problem solving and critical thinking in mathematics teaching and learning

This course is recommended for those teaching or leading mathematics at key stages 3 and 4, who wish to develop the use of problem solving skills and critical thinking in this challenging, new aspect of the curriculum

Follow link for [FLYER](#) or use this link to [book a place online](#)

### **Welcome to the Maths feast 2018!**

Just a reminder our popular Year 10 Team Competition is returning! These events, for teams of four, are designed to engage and interest students as well as allowing them to develop and demonstrate problem solving and communication skills.

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March Horizon Community College, Barnsley**

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March University of Sheffield.**

Bookings are open via the website and we hope to be able to announce a Doncaster venue soon, we would urge you to book early to avoid disappointment! Please use this webpage to access information about the different Feasts in your area and to book via the online form: <http://furthermaths.org.uk/maths-feast>

Bon appetit!

The Maths Feast Team