



Confidence-building support for schools, educators and families in disadvantaged areas across the UK

Schools & Families Programme

What is the problem we are trying to solve?



Many young people leave school without the numeracy skills and confidence with numbers they need for life.



A child's relationship with maths is grounded by the attitudes of the adults around them. Yet, many staff, parents and carers are not confident with numbers and feel negative about maths.



There is a wealth of evidence to suggest that alongside the great work that happens in the classroom, wider support is crucial to ensuring that children develop confidence with numbers.



We have been working to increase parental engagement with maths in primary schools since 2013, specifically with those with an above average of pupils eligible for free school meals, in areas of deprivation.

- A shocking 54% of girls and 43% of boys do not feel confident learning maths (NN, 2023).
- 23% of parents/carers say that having to help with their child's maths homework makes them feel anxious (NN, 2024).
- 43% of trainee teachers lack maths confidence, or skills, or both (NN, 2023).
- The effect of parental involvement at home on attainment is stronger than that of either socio-economic status or parents' level of education (Desforges and Aboucharr, 2003).

Programme Aims

The aims of the Schools & Families Programme are:

1. To increase pupils'
 - confidence with numbers
 - positive feelings about maths
 - awareness of the value of maths outside the classroom
2. To increase parents', carers' and school staff's confidence in supporting children with maths.
3. To establish lasting approaches and strategies that will continue in schools beyond the end of the programme.



Programme Content

Each participating school receives a package of support across a year, including:

Training:

- [Numeracy Champions](#) training for up to three members of staff, enabling the Champions to support staff, parents/carers and children with number confidence. 2 x 2-hour online sessions
- **Feeling Better About Maths** online CPD available for all staff
- **Parental Engagement** webinar

Resources:

- [Family Maths Toolkit](#) activities and scrapbooks for all pupils
- Access to the [National Numeracy Challenge](#) for staff and parents
- Materials to deliver ‘**Help Your Child Love Maths!**’ parent workshops
- Materials for communications with parents

Participation:

- Lessons and assemblies from our [Corporate Volunteers](#)
- Participation in National Numeracy campaigns: [National Numeracy Day](#) and [Number Confidence Week](#)
- **Expert-led webinars** on topics such as maths anxiety, dyscalculia, and financial education

Support:

- **Ongoing support** from a dedicated National Numeracy team throughout the programme
- Access to an **online resource hub**
- Termly online **Forums** with other schools to share successes and challenges
- **Newsletters**

Our impact so far

“I feel more confident answering questions.” *Child*

“It’s amazing how numbers are important in everyday life. Everywhere you look, there are numbers. The workshop was fun, interactive and informative. We loved it.” *Parent*

“Children are enjoying maths more and are more collaborative and are talking about the maths problems more.” *Teaching Assistant*

“I would definitely recommend the physical scrapbooks – they’re a game changer. Developing pupils’ confidence that numeracy doesn’t have to be complex and the scrapbooks help see that maths is everywhere, on their to school and you’re always using maths at home.” *Teacher*

“I know of one of our teaching assistants in particular who is low in confidence when it comes to maths and she has accessed the challenge and found it to be beneficial.” *Teacher*