

Early Years & Primary Newsletter

March 2021

Welcome to this month's Early Years and Primary newsletter. This month's newsletter is packed with useful links to resources and information. We also have some exciting news; in the coming weeks, our website will be updated to share information about opportunities on offer for schools for the academic year 2021-2022. Please follow this [link](#) to find out what work groups we have on offer.

Have an idea for a new work group? Our aim is to maintain our network of professionals, working together for the best outcomes for pupils and therefore, each year, we run a series of Research and Innovation Workgroups (RIWG). The ideas for these research groups are grown from local and national need and are driven by your ideas! Please get in touch if you have any suggestions.

With the confirmation that schools will be opening again from the 8th March, we want to wish you all a smooth return to 'normality' in your establishments.

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Academic Year 2021/22

We cannot believe that it is the time already where we are beginning to think about priorities for next academic year. As mentioned in the introduction, over the coming weeks we will be updating our website with information about work groups on offer for next year.

If after reading the information about the work group you feel you would like some further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch via email or to arrange a telephone conversation admin@symathshub.org.uk.

Remember that all of our Work Groups are **FREE** to join and some programmes will even mean your school benefiting from government funding.

Primary Curriculum Prioritisation Toolkit

The NCETM's Primary Team are producing materials to help primary schools prioritise the most important areas of the maths curriculum as they look towards the summer term and beyond. The materials will help teachers assess the extent of pupils' learning during lockdown, and use this to plan ahead. The key component, customised for every year group, is an evaluation form for class teachers to fill in.

It is closely linked to the ready-to-progress criteria contained in the DfE's primary maths guidance document from last summer, and the NCETM's PowerPoints exemplifying these criteria.

Our recent Covid recovery work group ran for four sessions as a brief introduction into how these materials can be used. If you would be interested in joining this working group, please contact admin@symathshub.org.uk

The accompanying message from the NCETM's Primary Director, Debbie Morgan is: *'You can't possibly teach everything. So prioritise core areas of maths: those things that will make the most difference.'*

The materials will be published by 11 March at the latest so look out on the Twitter page [@NCETM](#) or [@SYMATHSHUB](#) for notifications.

ALERT! PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY!

Register Your Interest – Primary Teaching for Mastery Specialist

Each year a selected group of primary teachers are selected to complete a programme of professional development to become Teaching for Mastery Specialists. The national training is funded by the DfE and accredited by the NCETM (National Centre for Excellence in Mathematics). During your training year, you will work closely with your staff team and the following year with colleagues within your local Maths Hub. Interested in learning more about this amazing CPD opportunity? [Read more here.](#)

Fill in the expression of interest form [here](#) to receive an email alert when the application form goes live for 2021-22!

Primary Network Meeting

The Spring Primary Maths Network Meeting will be held on Monday 22nd March via Zoom. The focus of the next meeting will be on identifying gaps, recovery and moving forward.

If you would like to attend this meeting please email us at admin@symathshub.org.uk and request the meeting invite link.

Early Years Curriculum Update

The new Early Years Curriculum will become statutory in September 2021. You will notice that the terminology used in the document is what we cover in our Early Years work groups so this may be an ideal time to find out more about signing up to participate in one of the work groups from September 2021. Please see more information [here](#).

Development Matters [document can be found here](#):

If you would like to find out more about the new EYFS curriculum, we recommend that [you visit this webpage](#) where you can read notes and watch clips from the Author Julian Grenier.

Whilst Shape, space and Measure have been removed from the curriculum, it remains a crucial part of Early Maths Development. If you are interested in exploring this further [visit this webpage](#) which has lots of useful information on spatial reasoning and why it is important.

The collection of EYFSP data is no longer mandatory this year and schools have been asked to make best endeavours to make their own internal assessments in order to share information with parents/ carers and KS1 colleagues.

Whole-school Approach to Learning Times Tables

If you are reviewing the way you teach times tables or want some research-

based inspiration, read this interesting article from the NCETM about some great work that Maths Hubs have been doing [Whole-school approach to learning times tables | NCETM](#)

Supporting KS2-KS3 Transition in Mathematics

MEI (Maths Education Innovation) are providing a series of FREE webinars to support transition of mathematics from KS2 into KS3. Previous webinars are also available on there. At this crucial time, such support is greatly welcomed. [MEI > Teachers > KS2-3 Transition](#)

Contacts

If you are interested in finding out more about your school's options please do get in touch.

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