

Primary Introductory Teaching for Mastery Work Groups 26/27

Information for Applicants

WORK GROUPS

Each Work Group will be led by one of the Maths Hub's Mastery Specialists and involves a group of local primary schools. During the year, they will work closely together to introduce and develop approaches to teaching for mastery. The Work Group activity will include:

- Each school identifying two teachers (Lead Participant Teachers) to lead developments within their school
- The two teachers working together with their allocated Mastery Specialist and teachers from the other Work Group schools in regular Teacher Research Group (TRG) style meetings and through an online community
- Each school receiving a termly support visit from the Mastery Specialist to observe teaching, to support in-school TRGs, and to work with the Lead Participants and headteacher in developing an action plan for the school
- The headteacher working with the Mastery Specialist and other members of the Maths Hub's leadership team to develop whole school policies and structures to support teaching for mastery
- The Lead Participants, supported by the headteacher, working with colleagues to develop teaching for mastery approaches in the classroom, supported by professional development activity including TRG methods.

Teaching for Mastery is an ongoing process and following the first two 'Introductory' years, schools are expected to continue being part of the Work Group to sustain a teaching for mastery approach across the whole school. These follow-on Work Groups will usually be led by the Mastery Specialist and will be supported by the Maths Hub to continue to work as a collaborative group that supports schools in their development of teaching for mastery.



BENEFITS FOR PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

Participating in the Work Group will provide the following benefits to participant schools:

- Develop a shared, whole-school vision for maths teaching
- Practical steps towards implementing teaching for mastery approaches
- High quality support for teacher professional development for the lead teachers, facilitated by the Mastery Specialist
- Support for the headteacher in addressing leadership issues related to teaching for mastery from the Mastery Specialist and the Maths Hub's leadership
- Opportunity to work closely with other schools also developing teaching for mastery
- No charge for participation as the programme is provided by the DfE through the NCETM Maths Hub programme.

WHO CAN APPLY?

The Work Groups are intended for schools who have not previously engaged in teaching for mastery but are committed to developing teaching for mastery approaches for primary maths.

This includes schools who have previously engaged with the Mastering Number Programme. Schools should also have the commitment and capacity for engaging in significant development work during the academic year.

Typically, the Maths Lead plus one other teacher are the nominated lead teachers.



COST

There is no charge to schools participating in the Introductory Teaching for Mastery Work Group – the programme is funded by the DfE through the NCETM Maths Hub programme.

HOW TO APPLY?

Schools interested in applying to be part of a Work Group in 2026/27 should complete the application form via the website.

Early applications are encouraged as places are limited.

Please retain this information sheet as it accompanies the application form.

There is the opportunity to engage in the programme with other schools that you already work with, for example as part of an academy trust or local cluster of schools. Each school must still make an individual application, but you can indicate on the application form the schools you would like to be placed with.

Once the school has applied, the NEHS Maths Hub will then make contact with you to explain next steps.

NB. This programme is for state-funded schools in the North-East Hants and Surrey Maths Hub region. If you are not sure whether your school is in this region please check [NCETM Find Your Maths Hub](#)

