

# Primary: Teaching for Mastery - Sustaining Work Groups

## OUTLINE

This is for all primary schools who have previously been involved in teaching for mastery via a Development or Embedding Work Group, or who are Mastery Specialists schools. It brings together schools across the Maths Hubs Network that are working on continued development to sustain their teaching for mastery approach to mathematics. It is new in 2020/21 and builds on the work carried out in previous teaching for mastery Work Groups. This year it will particularly focus on curriculum recovery. It will support schools in helping pupils make up for lost time through focusing on what really matters and providing a network of mutual support and expert guidance.

## DETAILS

### WHAT IS INVOLVED?

- The Work Group combines six workshop sessions spread out over the year, led by the Work Group Lead (a Mastery Specialist). School-based work is led by the lead participants in their own schools.
- The workshops are hosted in different schools during the year with the first workshop being held in the Mastery Specialist's school. In order to maximise the benefit of each workshop session, an afternoon model is proposed so that a twilight meeting can take place afterwards to allow additional teachers to join.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

- Schools participating will have previously taken part in a Development Work Group and might have received support for embedding teaching for mastery. A key characteristic of all the schools is strong commitment from both school and subject leadership for sustaining mastery approaches and for most teachers to have already started using mastery approaches.
- Each school will have a lead participant in the Work Group, normally the subject leader for maths. They are likely to have played a lead role in previous years. At different points in the year other teachers will participate in aspects of the Work Group workshops, either when hosting a TRG session or participating in a collaborative planning session.

### COVID RECOVERY

The school year 2020/21 will be substantially affected by the impact of the coronavirus outbreak. The knock-on effects on school life and teachers' working lives can't be predicted with any certainty. So, all Maths Hubs work will be flexible and adapt to changing realities. There's likely to be more live online collaboration, often including use of video, for example. In addition, Work Group content will be adjusted to address schools' recovery from coronavirus-related disruption alongside work on the central maths subject matter of each project.

### WHAT IS THE COST?

The Teaching for Mastery – Sustaining project is fully funded through the East Midlands East Maths Hub so is free to participating schools.

### HOW TO APPLY

-  [www.ememathshub.org](http://www.ememathshub.org)
-  [enquiries@ememathshub.org](mailto:enquiries@ememathshub.org)
-  01636 817 377

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## DETAILS (cont'd)

### WHAT ARE THE EXPECTATIONS?

Schools must be able to commit to the full academic year's programme. This involves six workshops across the academic year, as well as classroom and school-based activity. Workshops include opportunity for:

- Leadership focus: during the year the Work Group will discuss and reflect on practice associated with the pedagogical/policy issues identified as priorities in the opening workshop. In any session, the group would seek to support the leaders to work through their current context, how they might implement change, and later in the year reflect on the impact of the change. All schools will write an action plan which will be refined and adjusted over the year.
- Collaborative planning focus: teachers from the participant schools plan together and create sequences of lessons. The teachers will continue to plan collaboratively within school and across schools both face-to-face and online – reflecting on their practice, observing each other and refining plans as a result of feedback and discussion.
- Subject knowledge development: the planning will provide a vehicle for teachers to develop their subject knowledge through using the NCETM Primary Professional Development Materials; the leaders will create the right culture for this to be a regular feature of the professional development offer in their schools. There may also be the option of an early arrival to facilitate TRG activity.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### INTENDED OUTCOMES

Participants and their schools will:

- Enhance their mathematical subject knowledge, emphasising key areas of maths.
- Learn how to establish an effective collaborative planning culture.
- Plan, teach and reflect collaboratively to provide a coherent mastery curriculum.
- Continue to refine school structures and systems to embed and sustain mastery.
- Continue to ensure a sustainable model for collaborative planning and ongoing specialist subject knowledge development for all teachers.

### THE WIDER CONTEXT

The NCETM and the Maths Hubs Programme aim to promote high quality, collaborative professional development for all teachers. The strategic goal of the programme for primary schools is to establish teaching for mastery approaches so that all pupils develop deep knowledge, understanding and confidence in maths. Even after participating in Developing and Embedding Work Groups, there is often still a need to focus on the continued improvement, consistency and refinement of a mastery approach. Teachers and leaders will continue to need support, particularly in the areas of collaborative planning and specialist subject knowledge development. Consequently, these new Sustaining Work Groups are being introduced as a permanent form of support for maths in primary schools.

### SESSION DETAILS

To be confirmed.

