

## Secondary Mathematics Teaching for Mastery (2016/17)

### Work Groups led by Secondary Mastery Specialists

#### Information and Expression of Interest

In 2016/17 all Maths Hubs are participating in a national collaborative project addressing secondary mathematics teaching for mastery. As part of this project, Secondary Mastery Specialists will be offering support to schools across each hub area interested in developing teaching for mastery approaches in their departments. They will do this by setting up and leading a Work Group which models the approaches of a teacher research group<sup>1</sup>. ***Maths Hubs are therefore now looking to recruit schools to participate in this exciting and innovative project as members of these Work Groups.***

#### What is the background to these Work Groups?

Since 2014, Maths Hubs and the NCETM have been working together to develop approaches to mathematics teaching for mastery. Already, over 140 primary Mastery Specialists have completed a development programme and are now each leading Work Groups involving six primary schools. In July, the government announced its intention to invest £41 million in supporting the significant expansion of primary mathematics teaching for mastery. This work has built upon the positive China-England exchange programme where teachers in this country have worked closely with Shanghai teachers.

In 2015-16, each Maths Hub identified a lead secondary school to participate in the China-England exchange, with teachers from these schools visiting Shanghai before hosting Shanghai teachers later in the year. The lead schools have continued to explore key lessons for developing teaching for mastery in secondary schools.

In summer 2016, Maths Hubs and the NCETM decided to build upon the successful primary Mastery Specialist programme and develop a cohort of secondary Mastery Specialists. Each Maths Hub has now recruited up to four teachers for the programme. They will take part in a national development programme beginning in December 2016 and will be working on developing their own practice and practice across their own departments. As part of their development year they will also lead a Work Group.

#### What is involved with being part of the Work Group?

Each Work Group is led by a Mastery Specialist and will involve up to 12 teachers with ideally two teachers from each interested school (to ensure sustainable, collaborative working). The group will meet on four occasions (half-termly during the Spring and Summer terms), normally at the Mastery Specialist's school. Work Group members will work as a teacher research group - i.e. researching aspects of teaching for mastery through collaborative, practice-centered activity. Each half-day meeting will typically involve some lesson observation, post-lesson discussion and analysis. An important feature of these meetings will be an agreement to trial some approaches back at school

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<sup>1</sup> A teacher research group (TRG) is a vehicle for ongoing, collaborative professional development within a school with the specific purpose of supporting the development of classroom practice, subject knowledge and professional practice of all the teachers involved.

in one's own classroom and/or to undertake some discussions and developments within your department. As the Work Group develops, there may be opportunities for other teacher research group type activities which support the development of teaching for mastery approaches.

### What are the **benefits for participating schools?**

The Work Groups provide an opportunity for your school to engage in high-quality, sustained, collaborative professional development and participate in an important national project. The aim of these groups is to support participating teachers in developing teaching for mastery in their own classroom and across their department and to support the setting up of teacher research groups in the participant schools. As this is a pilot year, it will also be important to learn lessons about the design and planning of teacher research group type activities so that the processes can be refined for future use.

### Who can apply?

Any secondary school with an interest in developing mathematics teaching for mastery can apply. The school should ideally identify two teachers that will be best placed to innovate within their own classroom and to lead developmental work across the department.

### What are the expectations of participating schools and teachers?

Schools that wish to participate in the Work Group must commit to the following:

- The Work Group teachers will be released to attend **four** separate half-day meetings (one per half-term from January to July 2017).
- The Work Group teachers will engage in certain tasks (as planned and negotiated with the specialist) to support their ongoing professional development between **each** of the meetings.
- The head of department and senior leadership will fully support the Work Group teachers to undertake these development tasks.
- The Work Group teachers will contribute to the final reporting and evaluation of the Work Group. (Note: Feedback and comments, quoted from discussions and lesson observations, and data, qualitative or quantitative, will be anonymised before inclusion.)

### What are the costs for participation?

There is no fee or charge to participating schools to participate in this Work Group.

### How does the school apply to take part?

Please complete and return the Expression of Interest form below to East Midlands West Maths Hub at [mathshub@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:mathshub@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk) by **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December**.

If you require further information about the project, please contact us at the same address. The timeline for the expression of interest process is as follows:

Date	Activity
<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December</b>	The completed and signed Expression of Interest form must be submitted to East Midlands West Maths Hub
<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	The shortlisted schools will be informed.
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January</b>	The selected schools will be informed.

**Expression of Interest Form**

Please complete and return to East Midlands West [mathshub@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:mathshub@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk) by **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December.**

Name of school			
Address			
School URN		Contact telephone number	
Name of Head Teacher/Senior Leader		E-mail	
Name of Head of Department		E-mail	

**Participating teacher details**

**Teacher 1**

Name		Year Groups being taught in 2016/17	
E-mail			

**Teacher 2**

Name		Year Groups being taught in 2016/17	
E-mail			

**Head of department statement**

<p>Explain briefly (about 150 words) why the department wishes to participate in this Work Group and what it hopes will be the expected benefits and impact. Also, give details of why the two participating teachers have been chosen.</p>

**Confirmation of school commitment (electronic signatures)**

If chosen to participate in the Work Group, we understand and commit to the following expectations:

- The Work Group teachers will be released to attend four separate half-day meetings (one per half-term from January to July 2017).
- The Work Group teachers will engage in certain tasks (as planned and negotiated with the specialist) to support their ongoing professional development between each of the meetings.
- The head of department and senior leadership will fully support the Work Group teachers to undertake these development tasks.
- The Work Group teachers will contribute to the final reporting and evaluation of the Work Group. (Note: Feedback and comments, quoted from discussions and lesson observations, and data, qualitative or quantitative, will be anonymised before inclusion.)

Head Teacher/Senior Leader	<i>Signature of Head Teacher</i>
Head of department	<i>Signature of Head of Department</i>
TRG Teacher 1	<i>Signature of TRG Teacher 1</i>
TRG Teacher 2	<i>Signature of TRG Teacher 2</i>

*(Note: When the Expression of Interest form is e-mailed to your chosen Maths Hub, please copy all those above in confirmation of their electronic signature.)*