

more maths grads

National Launch

more maths grads holds its official launch at Queen Mary,
University of London, **April 23rd 2007**.

Contact

If you would like more information please contact
the *more maths grads* project manager: **Helen Orr**
E-mail: h.m.orr@bham.ac.uk
Mobile: **07900137488** - Office: **0121 414 8798**



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more maths grads: about the programme

more maths grads is a HEFCE-funded three-year programme designed to increase and widen participation within the mathematical sciences. It will support pilot schemes in three regions with the support of a local university:

- ❑ West Midlands (Coventry University)
- ❑ Yorkshire & Humberside (University of Leeds)
- ❑ East London (Queen Mary, University of London)

Each region will work with a number of schools and colleges, selected in consultation with Aimhigher and Action on Access. In this way the programme will encourage participation from groups of learners who have not traditionally been well-represented in higher education. The programme will also develop links between schools, colleges, information and guidance providers, universities and employers.

Primary aims and wider benefits

The primary aims are to:

- ❑ make mathematics exciting for school learners and teachers
- ❑ change the ways schools and universities interact in the mathematical sciences
- ❑ produce clear and accessible information and guidance to raise awareness of progression into higher education and the careers available
- ❑ encourage employer engagement to demonstrate the need for mathematical skills and their application in industry

The programme will work to promote the wider benefits of:

- ❑ increasing the numbers taking A-level maths (or equivalent), particularly those who did not achieve the highest grades at GCSE
- ❑ improving the level of mathematical achievement of students who study other science, technology or engineering courses in higher education
- ❑ increasing the numbers of mathematics graduates who proceed to teacher training and the subsequent numbers of specialist mathematics teachers in schools

HE curriculum theme

more maths grads will work with HE institutions to look at the mathematics curriculum in higher education. Sheffield Hallam University will conduct a national study to assess provision within universities and increase the scope of mathematical science courses in offering a real choice for a wider range of students.

The study will also look at the learning, teaching and assessment methods used by university mathematical science departments to see if students can be better supported in their studies to equip graduates with the skills that employers want.

Teaching theme

Teachers in schools and colleges are key to ensuring that **more maths grads** has a positive impact. The programme will work to develop teachers' enjoyment, confidence and knowledge of their subject and its applications. This will stimulate interest in their learners and help motivate and inspire them to continue their studies to A-level and beyond.

Careers theme

The programme will demonstrate the application of mathematics in industry, business and commerce and promote the career opportunities available to graduates with a degree in the mathematical sciences. Employers and universities will have direct input into the development of a series of careers resources for students, teachers and careers advisors.

Student theme

This theme will help make mathematics more enjoyable and give students the confidence to tackle more challenging problems and realise their true potential by encouraging them to take their studies of mathematics to a higher level.

Details of the resources will be published to the **more maths grads** website: www.moremathsgrads.org.uk as they become available.