



Schools & Families Programme

2024-2025 Report

Summary

In April 2024, National Numeracy launched the Schools & Families Programme, building on over a decade of experience in improving numeracy confidence and parental engagement in primary schools through the Parental Engagement Programme.

Thanks to the generous support and commitment of our partners and supporters, the programme has now engaged **nearly 300 primary schools** in areas of the greatest need, across all four UK nations.

The year-long programme aims to:

- **Boost pupils' confidence** with numbers, foster positive attitudes towards maths, and highlight its importance beyond the classroom.
- **Empower parents, carers and school staff** with the skills and confidence to support children's learning in maths.
- **Create sustainable strategies** and approaches that will continue to benefit schools and families long after the programme ends to continue to embed a positive culture towards maths.

Headline Results

The programme has delivered measurable improvements across key areas for schools completing the programme¹:

Attainment: 81% of schools agreed that engagement in the programme improved pupils' maths attainment.

Parental Engagement: 89% of parents/carers reported that they are more likely to engage in their child's learning in the future.

Confidence with Numbers: 80% of parents/carers attending a workshop felt more confident with maths.

Supporting Children's Learning: 87% of parents/carers who used our resources and responded, reported feeling better able to support their child.²

Positive Maths Culture: 85% of schools reported a positive cultural shift towards maths in pupils, and 73% of families noticed more positive attitudes at home.

1 - Data was collected from 26 out of 28 schools completing the programme in July 2025. Project leads, staff and parents were invited to complete an end of project survey. 6 visits to participating schools were also conducted in 2024-2025 to interview staff, pupils and parents/carers.

2 - There were 122 responses about how the Family Maths Toolkit (FMT) and 'Help Your Child Love Maths!' (HYCLM!) parent workshop helped parents/carers to feel better able to support their child. 59/69 responded positively about FMT and 47/53 about HYCLM!

Impact of the Schools & Families Programme 2024-25

Numeracy Champions Training: We trained 553 school staff as Numeracy Champions to lead the programme in their schools. 98% told us they felt more confident supporting others with numeracy as a result of this training.

Family Maths Toolkit: Schools used our everyday maths activities for families to complete together at home. 8,100 pupils and nearly 7,000 parents/carers engaged with the activities. 85% of schools agree that, through using the Family Maths Toolkit activities, there has been a shift towards a more positive culture around maths among pupils.

'Help Your Child Love Maths!' workshops: Numeracy Champions delivered a one-hour attitudinal workshop to parents and carers. Over 2,500 parents attended a workshop with 88% feeling more able to support their child with maths.

Parental Engagement Training: Dedicated, online parental engagement training is available for all school staff. This has been attended by over 140 staff, with 91% reporting greater confidence in engaging parents.

Feeling Better About Maths workshops: A brand new, online CPD-accredited workshop designed for building staff's number confidence. After taking part, 76% of participants said they felt motivated to improve their numeracy.

Volunteering: Corporate volunteers visited schools to promote the value of numeracy in jobs and hobbies, reaching over 3,450 pupils in Key Stage 2.

National Numeracy Day – The Money Edition: Over 11,000 pupils took part in our flagship campaign in May 2025 participating in various activities, including a live assembly and the Number Heroes competition.

Expert-led webinars: Termly, additional CPD opportunities for school staff focusing on topics such as financial education, maths anxiety and dyscalculia, reached over 120 staff members.

Looking forward

After a successful first year of the programme, National Numeracy are thrilled that we are continuing to expand the programme in 2025-2026. This will include regions such as Yorkshire and the Humber. Resources will now be available bilingually for the first time in Welsh-medium schools, and a two-year version of the programme will be developed medium schools and develop, with support from the Curriculum for Wales granting a two-year version of the programme through the Curriculum for Wales grant support programme.

The rapid growth and impact of the programme would not be possible without the generous support of our partners and funders: Barclays LifeSkills, Barratt Redrow Foundation, Capital One, CISI Future Foundation, Curriculum for Wales grant support programme, Garfield Weston Foundation, Kartesia, London Stock Exchange Group, Squarepoint Foundation and Vanquis Banking Group.

We are incredibly proud of the stellar impact achieved through the first year of our Schools & Families Programme thanks to the generous support of our partners and funders. From boosting children's learning and attainment, to improving parental engagement and helping schools to create a positive maths culture, the programme is achieving fantastic results. Our aim is to leave a lasting legacy with pupils, families and schools by boosting number confidence and building positive attitudes towards numbers and maths." - Sam Sims, CEO National Numeracy

Programme Development

In April 2024, National Numeracy launched the innovative and ambitious Schools & Families Programme, building on a decade of experience supporting primary schools to increase parental engagement with maths, as well as our wider work supporting adults to improve their numeracy.

Many young people leave school without the numeracy skills and confidence with numbers they need for life. We want all children to feel positive about numeracy and see it as relevant to their futures. A child's relationship with maths is grounded by the attitudes of the adults around them. Yet, many primary school staff, parents and carers lack confidence with numbers and feel negative about maths.

23% of parents/carers say that having to help with their child's maths homework makes them feel anxious ([National Numeracy, 2024](#)).

43% of trainee teachers lack maths confidence, or skills, or both ([National Numeracy, 2023](#)).

By age 11, a disadvantaged child is on average 10.3 months behind their richer peers ([EPI, 2024](#)). Only **14%** of the gap is related to what happens at school; **49%** is linked to what happens at home ([JRF, 2010](#)). Therefore, the programme provides a wraparound approach supporting the whole school community to develop positive attitudes to numbers.

The effect of parental involvement at home on attainment is stronger than that of either socio-economic status or parents' level of education ([Desforges and Abouchaar, 2003](#)).

Programme Aims

Working with primary schools across one year, the aims of the Schools & Families Programme are:

1. To increase pupils'
 - confidence with numbers,
 - positive feelings with maths,
 - awareness of the value of maths outside the classroom.
2. To increase parents', carers' and school staff's confidence in supporting children with maths.
3. To establish lasting approaches and strategies that will continue in schools beyond the end of the programme.

Targeting Locations

Our priority is supporting primary schools with the greatest need, including those in areas of high numeracy need (based on the [UK Numeracy Index](#)) and with above-average levels of pupils eligible for free school meals/in SIMD Q1-3. With the generous support from partners and supporters, we have extended our support for primary schools into all four nations for the first time. To date, we have onboarded **almost 300 primary schools** to participate in the programme.

Programme Activities

Numeracy Champions Training

All schools participate in our CPD-accredited Numeracy Champions training to launch their involvement in the Schools & Families Programme. Up to three members of staff per school can be trained, helping schools mitigate the potential implications of staff changes and ensure whole school buy-in.

To date, we have trained **553 Numeracy Champions** in participating schools.

- **98%** of participants completing the feedback form felt more confident to support parents and carers who lack confidence with numeracy.
- **97%** felt more confident to support colleagues who lack confidence with numeracy.



I really enjoyed learning about the potential of this programme and the positive changes it will make to my school. The facilitators were very knowledgeable, supportive and encouraging. I look forward to rolling this out across my school with confidence.



Really engaging and helpful thank you! Lots of great ideas to do with parents and it's fantastic that everything is done for us.

Parental Engagement Training

All staff, including support staff, can access a 1-hour, online training session focused on parental engagement, including what it is, why it is important, barriers to parental engagement and maths-specific strategies.

Over **140** primary school staff have accessed the training this year. **91%** of participants who completed the feedback form felt more able to support parents and carers to engage with their children's learning.

Feeling Better About Maths

In April 2025, we added a new training opportunity for all school staff: Feeling Better About Maths. This 2-hour, interactive, online CPD-accredited workshop focuses on adults' confidence and attitudes towards maths and motivates them to begin their learning journey by registering on the National Numeracy Challenge learning platform.

As this was introduced at the end of the first year's programme, only **27 participants** have attended the training to date.

- **80%** said they were more likely to improve their numeracy using the National Numeracy Challenge.



I really enjoyed it. It has been so useful and has helped boost my confidence.



It was helpful in explaining the complexities that others faces with maths. Letting us understand and acknowledge that we all struggle with maths in different ways but that it is okay to do so.

The Family Maths Toolkit

The Family Maths Toolkit is a collection of almost **250** activities for pupils to complete at home with their families. These open-ended activities are linked to real-world maths and are designed to encourage positive maths conversations and increase parental engagement. Schools are provided with a blank National Numeracy scrapbook per participating pupil.

To date, **8,100** pupils and **6,960** parents/carers have engaged with the Family Maths Toolkit activity.

- **91%** of pupils say that using the Family Maths Toolkit activities helps them feel more confident with maths.
- **94%** of pupils say that the activities have made them more aware of how maths and numbers are used in the real world.
- **88%** of parents/carers feel better able to support their child with maths learning since using the Family Maths Toolkit activities.



There has been a definite increase in parental engagement in homework. Parents are interested and asking questions. Children are keen and proud of their scrapbooks. - Teacher

I feel way better to support my child. It is supporting their maths skills every day. - Parent

I've realised how much I can do. - Pupil

'Help Your Child Love Maths!' Parent Workshops

'Help Your Child Love Maths!' is a 1-hour attitudinal workshop designed to aid parents in supporting their children to build positive attitudes towards numeracy, delivered by trained Numeracy Champions.

To date, **2,518** parents/carers have attended a 'Help Your Child Love Maths!' workshop:

- **87%** felt more confident with maths.
- **89%** felt more able to be positive about maths with their child.
- **89%** felt more able to point out maths in everyday life with their child.
- **88%** felt more able to support their child with their maths learning.
- **87%** are now more likely to engage in their child's maths learning.

The workshop was great and informative. It has changed the way I think about maths. - Parent

My favourite part of running the workshop was the impact it had beyond the session itself. The next day, a Year 2 parent caught me at my classroom door to say they'd gone home and let their child use measuring cups while cooking. - Maths Lead

National Numeracy Day – The Money Edition

In May 2025, all schools were invited to participate in our flagship, annual campaign: National Numeracy Day. Over **11,000** pupils got involved through a variety of activities:

- Live assembly with ambassador Bobby Seagull.
- Number Heroes Competition.
- Maths-focused Family Maths Toolkit activities.
- Lessons from White Rose Maths.
- Financial resources to support parents/carers, staff and pupils from our partners and supporters, including from Barclays LifeSkills and Experian.
- Activities from our delivery partners including Numberblocks and Numbots.
- Financial masterclass from the financial education platform *nudge*.



Children enjoyed taking part in the Number Heroes competition – understanding how maths is all around us and how they would use maths in their own dream job/hobbies.

National Numeracy Challenge

All schools are provided with access to the National Numeracy Challenge – an online learning platform that helps staff, parents and carers check and improve their everyday maths skills while building confidence.

One of our teaching assistants who is low in confidence when it comes to maths has accessed the Challenge and found it to be beneficial.

One parent gained the confidence through the National Numeracy Challenge to pursue her Maths GCSE.

Expert-led webinars

Participating schools gain access to a series of expert-led webinars, offering additional CPD opportunities. In 2024-2025, we hosted webinars in collaboration with:

- The Just Finance Foundation presenting their LifeSavers financial education programme.
- Dr Tom Hunt, maths anxiety specialist discussing strategies for supporting pupils with maths anxiety.
- The Dyscalculia Network looking at key information on dyscalculia, screeners and potential interventions.

Over **120** staff members attended these sessions.

Corporate Volunteering Programme

Where available, trained Corporate Volunteers visit participating schools to deliver a 'My Maths Story' assembly and/or 'Maths in the Real World' classroom session about the value of numeracy in adult working life. To date, Corporate Volunteers have reached over **3,450 pupils**.

- **100%** of schools agreed/strongly agreed that the sessions enabled the pupils to make the link between the maths they learn and the world of work.
- **94%** of schools agreed that the sessions inspired the pupils to see the maths in life beyond school.



The session was very engaging, and the pupils thoroughly enjoyed their time and learning about the different roles. They were keen to ask questions, and these were answered well which inspired pupils.

Children were not only able to think about their own careers in the future but also think about the many different ways in which we use numbers

Support

All schools are invited to attend termly online **Forums**. These Forums provide support, updates, a chance to share experiences, and opportunities for schools to connect with each other.

To ensure that schools have access to all resources, we've created an **online resource hub** hosting all documents, presentations and videos.

The programme also has a dedicated inbox, schoolsandfamilies@nationalnumeracy.org.uk, providing ongoing remote support.

Legacy

The Schools & Families Programme has been designed for sustainability and long-term impact. After completing the programme, schools receive a legacy package enabling them to continue fostering a number-positive culture:

Long-term outcomes include:

- Pupils better understand the **value of numeracy** in daily life and the workplace.
- Staff, parents/carers and pupils feel more **confident with numbers**.
- Staff, parents/carers and pupils feel more **positive about maths**.

Impact

Data is collected through termly surveys to the Project Lead, online Forums and end of project surveys to the Project Lead, staff and parents/carers. We also visit a sample of schools to survey and interview staff, parents/carers and pupils. Data presented here is from schools completing the programme in July 2025.

Attainment

An intended long-term outcome of the Schools & Families Programme is to raise attainment and help close the gap between disadvantaged children and their peers.

81% of schools completing the programme felt that maths attainment improved.

“Children express increased confidence with maths and numbers and have been more enthusiastic about the recent rounds of assessments which has improved data.

“Children are having more mathematical discussions at home. Our maths data is on an upwards trend.

Parental Engagement

An overall aim of the Schools & Families Programme is to increase parents' and carers' confidence supporting their children with maths, with the expected outcome that parents/carers are more positively involved in their child's maths learning.

- **89%** of parents/carers reported that they are more likely to engage in their child's learning in the future.

Confidence with numbers

The Schools & Families Programme aims to support pupils, staff and parents/carers to feel more confident with numbers.

- **91%** of pupils feel more confident with numbers having used the Family Maths Toolkit activities.

“Children are more likely to give other maths-related tasks a go now.

- **87%** of parents/carers attending a 'Help Your Child Love Maths!' workshop feel more confident with maths.

Confidence supporting children with maths

We work with staff and parents/carers to improve their confidence supporting children with maths.

Of schools completing the programme,

- **81%** of parents/carers using the Family Maths Toolkit activities felt better able to support their child with maths learning.
- **85%** of parents/carers attending a 'Help Your Child Love Maths!' workshop felt better able to support their child with maths learning.
- **61%** of schools reported that staff feel better able to support children with maths.



Very good and helpful to know how to help my child at home with maths.



I feel way better to support my child.

Culture

The Schools & Families Programme aims to tackle low numeracy confidence among pupils, staff and parents/carers by helping schools to create long-term change towards a positive culture around maths across the whole school community.

For schools completing the programme in Summer 2025:

- **85%** of schools agreed that there has been a shift towards a more positive culture around maths among children.



Participating in the Schools & Families Programme has significantly benefited our school community by fostering a more positive attitude towards maths among both pupils and their families.



The Schools & Families Programme has had a very positive impact on our school community. It encouraged meaningful engagement between children and their families.

If you would like further information about the Schools & Families Programme or its impact, please contact schoolsandfamilies@nationalnumeracy.org.uk.

If you are a corporate organisation that would like more information about becoming a National Numeracy partner or supporter and supporting our Schools & Families Programme, please contact partnerships@nationalnumeracy.org.uk.

National Numeracy is a charity dedicated to helping people feel confident with numbers and using everyday maths. Our mission is to empower children and adults in the UK to get on with numbers so they can fulfil their potential at work, home and school. Our work improves how people understand and work with numbers in everyday life, sparking better opportunities and brighter futures.

National Numeracy is a registered company (company no: 7886294) and charity (charity no: 1145669).

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