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Introduction

It has been quite a term, but it has been a real joy to see traditional Christmas activities returning to our schools after the restrictions of the last couple of years. Thank you to all of you, and your teams, for your continued dedication. We hope that you have a wonderful break over Christmas, full of fun and laughter with those you love.



Distribution of the additional funding announced in the Autumn Statement

The Autumn statement announced an extra £2.3m for education. In reality, this is a £2b increase after the removal of the funding for the health and social care levy and £400m of this is being allocated to high needs. The remaining £1.6b we anticipate being allocated as an additional grant for schools and through an increase to the pupil premium. We anticipate these increases will apply from April 2023 and details of how the funding will be allocated are due to be issued shortly. We will hopefully be able to inform you of your allocation straight after the Christmas break.



Additional funding for energy efficiency upgrades

The Government has announced additional funding for schools and colleges in England to spend on energy efficiency upgrades.

Allocations for schools in the Trust can be found [here](#).

The DfE expect the funding to be spent in the financial year 2022 to 2023. However, they have said that normal terms of devolved formula capital apply. This means that you must spend this grant within 3 financial years so this funding will need to have been spent by March 2025.

Whilst we want to take action to reduce our energy use as quickly as possible, please do not feel that you need to rush to spend these additional resources. We would rather ensure that they are used as part of a cohesive strategy for each school.

The drive to be more energy efficient has never been more focussed. With increasing energy prices, schools are having to make hard decisions against limited budgets. Understanding how to make consumption savings is key, as well as which energy efficiency measures to invest in to ensure direct savings against bills.

Being energy efficient aligns directly to the overall strategic aims of LSP to be carbon neutral by 2035. However, we acknowledge the focus on energy, and in turn cost savings, ahead of carbon savings.

Every school is different, is at a different stage of their carbon reduction journey and will have a different mix of priorities and measures to help them to achieve their own targets and aims.

Because of this, it's hard to prescribe a priorities list that will be applicable to each and every school, including the use of this grant. But there are some key areas to focus on. These include:

- LED lighting (being investigated as a Trust commissioned project)
- PV installation - solar panels (being investigated at a Trust commissioned project)
- heating and controls
- insulation
- technology
- equipment
- Half hourly metering

Nearly all schools across the Trust have a carbon reduction plan and have had a visit from our Sustainability Officer, Steph Franklin, to discuss individual actions and progress. These plans are a great place to start with understanding your school's current circumstance and position of energy efficiency.

The government has also published new advice to support schools in taking actions to manage energy efficiency across their buildings. Many of the initiatives or actions discussed will be included in your reduction plans, something you may already be doing, or something to look at actioning.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/energy-efficiency-guidance-for-the-school-and-fe-college-estate/energy-efficiency-guidance-for-the-school-and-further-education-college-estate>

Steph will be back in contact with you in the new year to discuss plans for the use these additional resources. However, please do not hesitate to contact her in the meantime sfranklin@lsp.org.uk

WONDE - MAT DASHBOARD

Schools will receive an email requesting permission to add their school to the LSP Dashboard. This is a free tool offered by Wonde to enable the central team to view software that has access to our data. Please complete the request contained within the email. If you have any questions, please contact Trust Services.

HSE Asbestos Visits

Could schools please upload a copy of their full Asbestos Management Survey (rather than the annual re-inspection) into Every under the corresponding activity? If any school has had an HSE Asbestos visit, or has one booked in, please could you let your Estates Hub Manager know.



Sickness Absence Reports

We are starting to run reports on sickness absence Trust-wide. This will identify trends across the Trust and highlight absence triggers in schools. To ensure that data is correct for your school, can primary schools please ensure that all sickness absences are entered into iTrent from April 2022 (as a minimum) to date. Sickness absence for secondary schools is being pulled from SIMs. If you have any queries, please contact hr@lsp.org.uk.

Casual Contracts

A reminder that casual contracts should be for a fixed term period, unless a member of staff has been on that contract (or one of a similar nature) for 3 or more years, in which case the contract would need to be made permanent if the contract is extended for a period that goes into the 4th successive year. If you have any queries, please contact hr@lsp.org.uk.

Neo People - Single Trial Checking Process - Payroll

Neo People, our payroll provider has been looking at ways to improve the payroll schedule following the successful implementation of the ticketing system for raising payroll requests. They have prepared a [payroll schedule](#) that shows a single trial payroll process, which provides the following improvements:

- Push back the payroll cut-off date by a minimum of 2 days each month.
- Extend the time for checking Trial data from 2 to 3 days each month.
- Changes made during the checking process will show on payslips the following day.
- Payroll locked period will reduce from 7 days down to 4 days.

These improvements will require schools to check payroll data once each month, rather than twice with the current two-stage process, and it will allow administrators and School Business Managers a longer period in which to input data.

These changes will be implemented with effect from January 2023. The schedule is also available under the 'Guides and Forms' section of the payroll system.

Submitted budgets on PSF

The accounts for the 2021-22 financial year are now complete and your final revenue and capital balances can be found on a new Income and Expenditure Scenario and Budget Forecast for 2022-23. We have uploaded this version of your Submitted Budget into PSF as the 'Approved Budget'. For those schools where their LGB has approved a Revised budget, this has also been uploaded into PSF as the 'Revised Working Budget'.

Budget Monitoring

Thank you again to School Business Managers, and any other staff involved, for producing your first budget monitoring report for the 2022-23 financial year. The Central Team have now checked your submissions for reasonableness and collated the information for the Board of Trustees meeting on 20th December. The outcome of our checks can be found on Foldr or by using this [link](#).

Please enter your LA and DfE number to find the information for your school. Please be aware that we do not have sufficient information to determine whether your projections are completely accurate or not. Checks have been carried out for reasonableness and information has been provided to indicate any areas that may need further investigation to ensure that your projections are accurate. If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Central Team.

IMP Planning

Schools are already aware that we will be planning 2023-24 budgets using IMP, our new budget planning and monitoring software, rather than Orovia. The new system will be ready to 'Go Live' in the first week of Term 3 and the Finance Team will be using the first few weeks of term to test and refine the system, as well as working alongside the new schools joining the Trust to help prepare their 2022-23 interim budgets using IMP.

The plan is to start training existing schools after the February break. The Finance Team will be more familiar with the system by this time, any issues arising will have been resolved and the 2023-24 Budget Assumptions Guidance will have been prepared. This will enable Business Managers to start budget planning as part of their training which will make the process much more meaningful for users. Please can Business Managers pencil two dates into your diaries as provisional training dates - **Tuesday, 21st February and Monday, 27th February**. It is likely that attendance will be required at only one of these sessions, but we will be able to plan these sessions more thoroughly in the new year as we start using the system ourselves.

Additionally, in order for the staffing data in IMP to be as up-to-date as possible, we will plan to do a download from iTrent into IMP on **Monday, 16th January**. Please ensure that iTrent is as up-to-date as possible at this date. Obviously, any changes to staffing after this date, will need to be updated in both Orovia and IMP once schools have access.

Board of Trustees Report

At a meeting held via Microsoft Teams on 6th December 2022 the Board undertook the following actions :

- Received and challenged the CEO Report.
- Received and challenged the monthly financial monitoring information.
- Received and challenged the CFOO Report.
- Received the post-audit Report.
- Considered responses by management team to findings by external auditors.
- Received report on high risk items from risk register.
- Approved previous year Executive Pay report.
- Challenged and ratified recommendations by CEO Appraisal Committee.
- Received LGB RAG ratings and approved Co-opted Governor appointments.
- Received and approved final accounts and Annual Report for the previous financial year.
- Received Staffing and Audit Committee reports.
- Received Board and LGB self evaluations.
- Approved the minutes of last meeting 09/11/22
- Reviewed the Action Tracker.
- Agreed updates to Risk Register.
- Noted the date of the next board meeting - 18th January 2023.

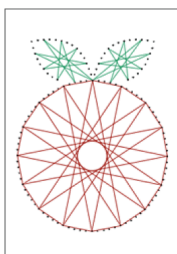


BOOLEAN MATHS HUB



Primary and Early Years Bulletin

We work with schools & colleges to support the continuous improvement of mathematics education for all students in the following local authority districts: Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol, North Somerset, Somerset & South Gloucestershire. The Maths Hubs Programme is funded by the DfE and coordinated by the National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics.



Merry Christmas from the Boolean Maths Hub team!

We hope you have a wonderful Christmas holiday and a Happy New Year.

Read on to find out how to be in with a chance to win a complimentary ticket to our annual conference on Wednesday 25th January (*don't delay booking your tickets—if you win your ticket will be refunded*)!



2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

EQUITY OVER EQUALITY

IN THE CONTEXT OF MATHS EDUCATION

Bringing together teachers and leaders from Early Years to Post-16 interested in providing high-quality maths education as a means to address the disadvantage gap in the South West.

Professor Alf Coles
University of Bristol
Co-author of 'I Can't Do Maths'

Sally Apps
Executive Principal,
Cabot Learning Federation

Matt Stevenson
Deputy Director
DfE (South West)

Charlie Stripp
Director of the NCETM
MEI Chief Executive

WEDNESDAY
25 JANUARY

TAUNTON RACECOURSE
SOMERSET, TA3 7BL



NCETM
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE
IN THE TEACHING OF MATHEMATICS

£45

*including lunch and refreshments

REGISTER HERE

www.booleanmathshub.org.uk

Fully funded

Apply now



Starting 10th January

Teaching for Mastery
in Special Schools & Alternative
Provisions

The focus for the Work Group this year will be on using real world contexts to support understanding in mathematics. This Work Group supports inclusive collaboration, provides access to expertise in both teaching for mastery and SEND provision and includes intersessional in-school tasks between each workshop.

Who can take part? Maths Leads from special schools and alternative provisions (non-mainstream schools) plus another teacher/colleague.



Leading for Sustainable Development in Mathematics: Supporting Primary Leadership Starting 17th January

Fully funded

This Work Group aims to support school leadership teams to develop sustainable approaches for improving pupil outcomes in mathematics. By investing time in leadership aspects, participants can reflect on specific challenges and longer-term priorities related to their school's vision for mathematics, support for disadvantaged pupils and the implementation of teaching for mastery.

Visit our website

follow us on



@booleanmathshub



NCETM
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE
IN THE TEACHING OF MATHEMATICS

Fully funded

Subject Knowledge for the Teaching of Mathematics (SKTM) for Early Years Teachers

Follow link for further information and to apply

Somerset and Bristol Cohorts

Starting 19th and 20th January 2023

Develop mathematical subject knowledge and understand the pedagogy that underpins the teaching of it.



Mastering Number

This project aims to secure firm foundations in the development of good number sense for all children from Reception through to Year 1 and Year 2. The aim over time is that children will leave KS1 with fluency in calculation and a confidence and flexibility with number. Attention will be given to key knowledge and understanding needed in Reception classes, and progression through KS1 to support success in the future.

Over 200 schools in our region are already using Mastering Number in their classrooms.

Short videos can be found [HERE](#) which give a flavour of Mastering Number happening with different age-groups. The teachers explain how the programme has benefited all pupils in their classes, providing firm foundations for later work in maths.

Expressions of interest are now welcome from any Infant or Primary school who have yet to take up this fantastic opportunity.

[Express interest here for the next Cohort \(2023/24\)](#)



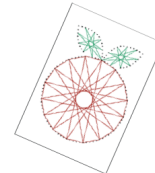
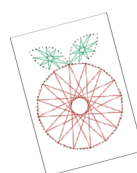
NCETM
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE
IN THE TEACHING OF MATHEMATICS

Recruitment opening on **Tuesday 3rd January**
for these exciting opportunities with the
Boolean Maths Hub and NCETM

[Primary Mastery Specialists](#)

[Professional Development Lead Programme](#)

[School Development Lead Programme](#)



Win a COMPLIMENTARY TICKET to the Boolean
Maths Hub Conference taking place on
Wednesday, 25th January at Taunton Race-
course.

The draw will be made on Thursday 5th January

Good Luck!

[ENTER HERE](#)

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Institute