

## November 2018

If you're a maths Specialist Leader of Education (SLE), there's just over a week to apply for a place on a new, funded NCETM and Maths Hubs programme designed to help you fine-tune your school improvement work.

Also this month:

- CPD opportunities for A level and Core Maths teachers
- New NCETM podcast: What's it like to be in a Maths Hub Work Group?
- NCETM Director's blog: maths competitions should be used to motivate all students, not just the 'brightest'
- In brief.

## New support programme for maths SLEs: apply now

A [new, funded programme](#) to help maths SLEs fine-tune their school improvement work and strengthen the impact of maths leaders in schools and colleges, has been launched by the NCETM and Maths Hubs.

The programme is for current maths SLEs linked to a Teaching School, and will benefit both those with previous experience of developing leadership capacity in schools, and those new to the role.

[Full information, including an application form](#), is available to download.

The closing date for returning applications to the NCETM is **Friday 23 November 2018**.

## Professional development for teachers of maths beyond GCSE

We've produced a [new poster](#) to help teachers understand the range of professional development options, run by [Maths Hubs](#) and the [Advanced Mathematics Support Programme \(AMSP\)](#), available to anyone teaching maths beyond GCSE.

Many of the options, in particular the [Work Groups run by Maths Hubs](#), involve teachers joining colleagues from other schools and colleges in an ongoing series of workshops, across the school year.

There's a wide range of opportunities available, covering teachers of A level Maths and Further Maths and Core Maths, including one Work Group exploring the greater use of technology, by teachers and students, in Level 3 maths areas.

## What is it like to be in a Maths Hub Work Group? New NCETM podcast goes behind the scenes

*'This is incredible CPD, probably the best CPD that I've ever done, and it's free'*

*'I got really excited about ideas that I could take back to a team of teachers, some of whom are very experienced'*

In our [latest podcast](#), two secondary teachers - one a head of department - explain how participating in a Maths Hub Work Group on mathematical thinking both helped their own teaching and sowed seeds of improvement in their departments.

For information about all Maths Hubs projects and Work Groups, and to find contact details for a Maths Hub near you, go to [mathshubs.org.uk](http://mathshubs.org.uk).

## 'Maths competitions shouldn't be aimed just at the 'brightest' students', says NCETM Director in new blog post

In a new [blog post](#), the NCETM Director, Charlie Stripp urges schools and colleges to expose all pupils to competitions run by maths organisations, rather than choosing only a proportion of them to tackle the challenges.

Drawing on his own experience teaching in the FE/sixth form college sector, Charlie thinks the challenges offer opportunities for all students:

*'I think the best way to use the competitions is to encourage (but not compel) all students to have a go, on the basis that they have nothing to lose and that students who really couldn't see themselves doing maths for fun often surprise themselves by really enjoying the experience.'*

### In brief

- The Association of Teachers of Mathematics (ATM) and The Mathematical Association (MA) are holding a [joint annual conference](#) in 2019, running from 15-18 April, and places can be booked now. A number of bursaries are being offered: both the [ATM](#) and [MA](#) websites have details and closing dates for applications.
- The Institute of Mathematics and its Applications (IMA) is once again offering [Mathematics Teacher Training Scholarships](#), for those starting their secondary teacher training in 2019/20. The scholarships are worth £22 000 plus other benefits. Applications are now open and close on **1 July 2019**, although application rounds may close early if a large number of applications is received. [Find out more](#).

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