

National Numeracy Corporate Volunteers

PROGRAMME REPORT September 2023 - July 2024



Summary

As a nation, our numeracy levels are alarmingly below the average for developed countries, with the lowest confidence with numbers being among school leavers. Over a third of adults experience maths anxiety, a sentiment often inherited across generations.

A significant 54% of girls and 43% of boys lack confidence in learning maths, and 27% of children fall below target by the end of primary school. We are determined to change this.

National Numeracy's Corporate Volunteering Programme cultivates a community of volunteer role models dedicated to addressing this issue. They promote positive attitudes towards maths among children and demonstrate the real-world value of numeracy.

The programme also offers the opportunity for our partners to directly support their local communities, fostering numeracy as a crucial element for social mobility. It expands our impact and reach into the communities most in need, utilising insights from [The UK Numeracy Index](#) and our corporate partners. Our mission is to empower disadvantaged communities to thrive, as low numeracy disproportionately affects them, with disadvantaged children falling ten months behind their wealthier peers in maths by age 11.

After a successful first year, participation in the programme has surged and now includes nine corporate partners.

"I can't express in words how much I've gained" – four of our volunteers reflect on their experience taking part in the programme.

In 2023 / 2024:

- We delivered **14 online** Numeracy Corporate Volunteer training sessions, **training 145 volunteers** from our partners Capital One, CISI Future Foundation, Experian, Kartesia, KPMG, London Stock Exchange Group, S&P Global, TP ICAP and Vanquis Banking Group.
- **100 volunteers** delivered **105 'My Maths Story'** assemblies and **125 'Maths in the Real World'** class sessions, reaching **16,100 children** in **96 schools**, with volunteers giving a total of **201 training hours** and **561 delivery hours**.



Both the assemblies and class sessions delivered in schools by volunteers aim to:

 **CONNECT**

classroom learning with real-world applications.

 **ENCOURAGE**

children to consider careers involving maths.

 **INSPIRE**

a recognition of maths in everyday life.

 **CHALLENGE**

stereotypes about careers and the workplace.

 **MEET**

the Gatsby Benchmark of Good Career Guidance; Benchmark 4 – Linking Curriculum Learning to Careers.





These sessions also offer volunteers opportunities to showcase and develop their skills, boosting their self-confidence and sense of achievement.



The assembly was great! The volunteer was engaging and had a calm, friendly tone. The session allowed pupils to think more deeply about maths in the real world by providing many opportunities for them to ask questions and share their thoughts and ideas.



I found the assemblies hugely rewarding – the children were absolutely brilliant, listening really well and contributing with plenty of ideas and questions.

***94% of teachers agreed that the sessions inspired the children to see the maths in life beyond school.**

***90% of volunteers agreed they were able to develop their communication skills.**

***85% of volunteers agreed taking part had developed their self-confidence.**

***100% of volunteers agreed they had fun and enjoyed themselves.**

Thank you to the CSR Leads and volunteers from our corporate partners for their time and commitment to the success of the second year of the programme and thanks too to all the schools who have taken part!



If you would like further information about the programme or its impact, please contact laura@nationalnumeracy.org.uk.

If you are a corporate organisation that would like more information about becoming a National Numeracy partner and taking part in our volunteering programme, please contact partnerships@nationalnumeracy.org.uk.

Primary or junior schools can find out more, see if we have volunteers in your area, and apply for a volunteer visit through [this webpage](#).

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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