



Advanced Mathematics
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Standard

National Centre
for Excellence in the
Teaching of Mathematics



Problem Solving in Mathematics Admissions Tests: Supporting students through the MAT, TMUA and STEP examinations

Birmingham

9th January 2019

Overview

Admissions tests are being used by an increasing number of universities to identify students suitable for their undergraduate STEM degrees. Some of these examinations form part of the university offer and some can be used to lower A level offers on particular courses.

This professional development course looks at the three main admissions tests for undergraduate Mathematics degrees, the MAT, TMUA and STEP examinations.

The course will also include materials suitable for use in general classes to develop students' problem solving skills.

Aims

- To provide information about the MAT, TMUA and STEP examinations.
- To provide an opportunity to think about, discuss and hear others' experiences of supporting students to develop their problem-solving skills.
- To experience the level of maths in the problems in order to gain insight into the challenges of supporting students to develop appropriate problem-solving skills.
- To introduce useful resources to use with students.
- To provide advice on how to set-up problem-solving support in a school or college.
- To provide information about organisations that support students in preparing for the MAT, TMUA and STEP examinations.

Who will benefit from attending?

This course is suitable for any teacher or aspiring teacher of A level Maths who wishes to find out about university maths admissions tests and the support that is available for students preparing for these examinations.

Content

Information about the MAT, TMUA and STEP examinations and university entrance

This session will lead you through the key information about the three main maths university admissions tests.

Developing a problem solving mind-set In this session you will learn about the mindset that students need to develop in order to be successful when taking admissions tests.

Hands on with MAT and TMUA problems

In this session you will get a chance to try a variety of questions from the MAT and TMUA examinations and discuss what students can learn from completing those questions.

Getting students started – initial problems

In this section you will encounter some ideas and resources that will help you start your students off with developing their problem solving skills.

Hands on with STEP problems

In this session you will get a chance to try a variety of questions from the STEP 1, 2 and 3 examinations and discuss what students can learn from completing those questions.

Setting up support

The final session of the day will look at how you can set up some in-school support for students preparing for admissions tests and find out about the support that students can access elsewhere.

Eligibility

This course is designed for teachers from state-funded schools, colleges and academies. Teachers from independent schools can apply for a place but will not receive any bursary for attendance.

Cost

All state schools, academies and colleges whose teachers attend the course are entitled to a bursary of £200 for every teacher from their school who attends. This is paid on confirmation of attendance by the course leader and is subject to the school/college finance department providing payment details.

Schools in [Priority Areas](#) are entitled to an additional £50 bursary.

Key Facts

Event ref:	#5331
Audience:	Teachers
Curriculum focus:	University admissions tests, A level Mathematics
Mathematical focus:	Pure, Problem solving
Event format:	Face-to-face Professional Development
Event length:	1 day
Region:	West Midlands
Venue:	University of Birmingham, School of Mathematics, West Midlands, B15 2TT
Date:	Wed 9th Jan 2019
Fee:	Free for state-sector, 50 otherwise
State-sector subsidy:	£200
Priority Area subsidy:	£250

Registration

For more information, or to register for this event, please visit <https://amsp.org.uk/events/details/5331>