

Higher Level Maths Achievement Programme

What is it? Who is it for?

- A pilot programme offered by the Advanced Mathematics Support Programme and Maths Hubs
- Aims to support students to **secure top grades at GCSE Maths** and **study maths at Level 3**.
- Focused on students from disadvantaged backgrounds with high prior attainment.
- **400 secondary schools** will take part in 2025/26. Eligible schools will be those with a **high proportion of students from disadvantaged backgrounds** and the capacity to engage fully in the programme's activities.

Why is it needed?

Students from disadvantaged backgrounds generally perform less well than their peers at GCSE Maths, despite high prior attainment at KS2. Addressing this involves supporting schools and teachers to work collaboratively, develop strong leadership and improve maths teaching and learning.

The Higher Level Maths Achievement Programme (HLMAP) is informed by research, and by outcomes from the [Stoke-on-Trent Maths Excellence Partnership](#) which, over the course of its lifetime, has already seen:

- Students achieving top GCSE grades (A/A*/7+) increase from 9.5% to 15.1%
- Students achieving grade 5+ increase from 37% to 44%
- A level Maths entries increase by 67%
- Students who achieve 4+ at GCSE Maths and progress to Level 3 maths increase from less than 1 in 6 to more than 1 in 4.

What is involved?

1. **Bespoke support for schools** including the AMSP Local Lead working with the maths department and sharing strategies and evidence-based advice with teachers and school leaders.
2. **Professional development through a Maths Hub Work Group**, jointly led by a LLME and the AMSP Local Lead. Sessions will focus on subject pedagogical knowledge and the implementation of change, to help teachers inspire students and teach demanding GCSE content with confidence and share best practice with their departments.
3. **Student Study Days** focused on mastering demanding topics, developing mathematical problem-solving skills and preparing for GCSE questions. At least one of these will be held at a local university.

What is the commitment?

Schools engaging with the programme will need to commit:

- One or two teachers to attend the Work Group sessions, a total of 15 hours (typically 3 days) across the year. These teachers should be teaching Higher-Tier GCSE Maths and have an interest in supporting students from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Students from Years 10 and 11 to attend two Study Days per year group. There will be a study day for Y7 in the summer term. Schools will need to identify 10 to 15 students from each year group. Students chosen should be from disadvantaged backgrounds and have high prior attainment.
- A maths department with the capacity and willingness to work the AMSP Local Lead to develop a culture of high aspirations and challenge for all students with high prior attainment at KS2 to ensure that they achieve their potential.