

**Sample Workshop slides :
Supporting Heads of Departments
of Mathematics**

Review Session :

1. Strengths and weaknesses of your Department
2. Your introductory focus for the workshop

This will help to give us a focus and direction for the workshop, tailored to where your department and you are at the moment.

Focus on Mathematics

Part A) Outline where you are at the moment

1. What does your school data show about your student
a) attainment, b) progression?
2. If attainment is lower than expected, what are the possible reasons?
 - e.g. Are the A'level pupils properly supported eg Physics background to support Mechanics?
 - Are GCSE students being challenged enough, and early enough – are they coasting (possibly in Y9)?

- Are specific groups in the school under-achieving?
- Do some groups need greater challenges?

Progression : is progression through from KS2 to KS3 and KS3 to KS4 as you would like? If not, where are things going astray? What about to A'level and University entry?

Part B) Actions that are needed to remedy the situation

Options include reviewing syllabuses and exam reports, putting in measures to improve progress and attainment, such as

- Revisiting the teaching of Mathematics, See [5,8 for example].
- Review the resources used,
- Looking at studying/revision,
- homework,
- lunchtime help desks, fun sessions to make Maths relevant and alive [See the web references],
- study groups,
- Feedback type – eg on marked work etc...

Part C) Putting Action plan in place and reviewing outcomes

- Who's doing what?
- When?
- What would you term “success”?
- When and what will you review?
- If extra specialist Maths training is needed – identify this and seek training – we are experts in this.
- We offer training on any A level Maths, or Further Maths Topic.

Sample Overview of Workshop – type of topics we may cover

Soft skills (focussing on Teaching as a medium to build upon)

- a) Building positive relationships in the department/in school
- b) Building bridges and a collaborative forum within the department to share good practice
- c) Building confidence in staff/team
- d) Motivating your staff

Teaching and Learning Review

- e) General review of good teaching practices – to raise the quality of teaching across the department
- f) Gold star lessons – what are the features of an outstanding Maths lesson?

Teaching and Learning Review

- g) Encouraging learning and greater progress in pupil attainment
- h) Using assessment data to guide teaching

Curriculum : Subject-specific issues

- i) Curriculum planning and organisation
- j) Developing skills within the department to teach at a higher level e.g. A' level
- k) revising departmental policies, changing syllabuses, implementing subject-change across the whole school

**See The Sample Workshop slides :
Supporting Heads of Department for the general sample materials**

Follow-up

After our workshop we will review with you

- i) After a half-term
- ii) After 2 terms

To see how progress is going and if any further adjustments are needed.

Sample References

- 1. Taylor M, Goeke J, Klein E, Onore C, Geist K, *Changing leadership : Teachers lead the way for schools that learn*, Teaching and Teacher Education, **7**, 2011, 920-929.
- 2. Muijs D, Harris A, *Teacher led school improvement: Teacher leadership in the UK*, Teaching and Teacher Education, **22**, 2006, 961-972.
- 3. Miller N, *Insider change leadership in schools*, Int. J. Leadership in Education, 2002, **5** (4), 343-360.
- 4. Harris A, *Effective leadership in schools facing challenging contexts*, School Leadership & Management, **22** (1), 2002, 15-26.
- 5. Morgan C, Tikly C and Watson A, [Teaching School Subjects: Mathematics \(Teaching School Subjects 11-19\)](#), 2004, Routledge.

6. Maslow AH, *Motivation and Personality*, Harper & Row, London, 1987.
7. Hinchliff S, *The Practitioner as Teacher*, Elsevier, 2005.
8. Clausen-May T, [*Teaching Maths to Pupils with Different Learning Styles*](#), 2005 (Chapman Publishing)

Useful Mathematics Web sites

<http://www.cmtip.co.uk/> *KS3 Maths project*

<http://www.atm.org.uk/> Association of Mathematics Teachers

<http://www.ncetm.org.uk/> National Centre for Excellence in Teaching
Mathematics

<http://www-history.mcs.st-andrews.ac.uk/history/> History of Mathematics
Archive

<http://www.lms.ac.uk/> London Mathematical Society