

Tackling the Numeracy challenge

Support and information for providers



The important role played by numeracy skills in the development of a skilled workforce has been emphasised by the government, and current estimates are that a worrying **17 million adults in the UK have difficulty with numbers** and **23.9 million adults – or 75% of adults – have skills below Level 2.**

The government has set ambitious targets and is taking a number of measures to strengthen and increase numeracy provision and achievement over the next three years. The Learning and Skills Improvement Service (LSIS) has commissioned the National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics (NCETM) to take forward some key numeracy implementation priorities into a second year.

As part of the Numeracy Challenge project, a number of support and information guides for providers have been developed.

Numeracy in Train to Gain: A guide for Train to Gain brokers and providers

This guidance booklet about numeracy in the workplace was written to support Train to Gain brokers and others involved in Train to Gain provision. It pulls together and summarises the information and support that is available to help brokers and providers establish successful programmes. It looks at:

- the need for numeracy in the workplace
- promoting numeracy as part of the Train to Gain offer
- LSC regulations and requirements for numeracy in Train to Gain
- delivery approaches that work
- useful resources to support this work
- sources of further information, including links to key web sites.

Numeracy Resources Guide

This clear, simple reference guide identifies a range of numeracy resources to give teachers choices from a wider set of teaching and learning materials. It gives guidance on:

- the intended audience
- the level(s) covered
- main ideas and content
- how each resource can be used in teaching and learning
- selecting and using resources for teaching specific skills and meeting common learning needs in different learning settings.

Teaching and Learning Numeracy at Entry 3: Guidance and support for providers

This pack of materials provides ideas for building effective programmes for Entry 3 learners in different settings, including Train to Gain. Based on the needs of real-life learner groups, there are exemplars and suggestions for:

- constructing schemes of work
- developing innovative lesson plans
- using relevant resources.

These guides can be downloaded from the NCETM numeracy micro-site (www.ncetm.org.uk/numeracy) and will be available from April 2009.