# Creating a Numberblocks environment

Maths Hubs
Innovation Projects 2020/21
**IN20-LO3-01**

MATHSHUBS
LONDON CENTRAL AND WEST

## OUTLINE

This project is designed to engage EYFS and Y1 teachers in some action research to develop the use of *Numberblocks (CBeebies Programme)* as a teaching approach.

## HOW TO APPLY

Apply: www.lcwmathshub.co.uk
Expression of Interest form

Email:
michelle.foster@lcwmathshub.co.uk

## DETAILS

### What is involved?

- ✓ X6 Online Work Group meetings from 1545-1745 November '20-April '21'
- ✓ Developing and trying out classroom-based practices to report back on to the Work Group
- ✓ Working collaboratively during the Work Group meetings to suggest how to develop the use of the NCETM Numberblocks materials in Early Years' settings and Y1 classrooms.
- ✓ Identify a sample of children to closely monitor during the action research to evaluate the impact of the Numberblocks environment.

### Who can apply?

This programme is designed for teachers in Early Years or Y1 who would like to develop their teaching of mathematics inspired by the BBC Series Numberblocks, using the NCETM support materials published for series 1 and series 2.

Numberblocks complements the teaching for mastery approaches.

### What is the cost?

This Work Group is **fully funded** by the Maths Hubs Programme so is **free** to participating schools. However we will need to charge £75 per session for non-attendance with less than 1 weeks' notice.

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## BENEFITS

Participants and their schools will:

- ✓ Early Years Teachers and Y1 Teachers will understand how the Numberblocks episodes help to develop number concepts.
- ✓ Teachers will become familiar with the teacher support materials and develop their use in class.
- ✓ Teachers will evaluate the impact of Numberblocks and the support materials on their own teaching and pupils' learning.

**Covid Recovery**

The school year 2020/21 will be substantially affected by the impact of the coronavirus outbreak. The knock-on effects on school life and teachers' working lives can't be predicted with any certainty. So, all Maths Hubs work will be flexible and adapt to changing realities. There's likely to be more live online collaboration, often including use of video, for example. In addition, Work Group content will be adjusted to address schools' recovery from coronavirus-related disruption alongside work on the central maths subject matter of each project.

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## Additional Information

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## The wider context

***Numberblocks*** **is** a BBC TV series. In the series, the development of early number is informed by the NCETM's principles for teaching for mastery. In addition to the programmes, the NCETM commissioned the writing of **teacher support materials** for Series 1 and 2 – authored by Laurie Jacques, the Work Group Lead. New materials for series 3 and 4 are currently being written and extend into the Y2 number curriculum. This Work Group will seek to explore how the Numberblocks episodes and the support materials can be used to develop an environment for early number in reception and year 1.

## Dates and Timings

**Mondays (Online Zoom/TEAMS)**

| | |
|---|---|
| **23rd November 1545-1715** | **(1.5hrs)** |
| **11th January 1545-1745** | **(2hrs)** |
| **25th January 1545-1745** | **(2hrs)** |
| **22nd February 1545-1745** | **(2hrs)** |
| **15th March 1545-1745** | **(2hrs)** |
| **26th April 1545-1745** | **(2hrs)** |

## Expectations of participants and their institutions

Participants and their schools must be able to commit to the full academic year's programme which will involve online collaboration. Schools with the capacity to share video clips of classrooms are particularly welcomed (with the necessary permissions obtained).

During the programme, participants will be asked to undertake tasks with learners to deepen their thinking about the learning of maths, and to share this with colleagues. It is asked that school leaders support their staff to complete this work.

## Work Group Lead Info

Laurie is an experienced PDL (accredited Primary PDL and CPS-S Holder as SMaR+ PD). She has extensive experience of running Maths Hub collaborative Work Groups for LSE, LCW, Sussex K&M Maths hubs, usually using lesson study as the medium for professional learning. Laurie is also the contracted author for the NCETM Numberblocks teacher support materials for series 1 and 2.

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