

Early Years Learning Leads

Early Maths Leads

Every child deserves the opportunity to develop strong mathematical understanding from the very beginning. That's why the Department for Education (DfE) is introducing Early Maths Leads as part of its mission to give every child the best start in life.

Trained Early Maths Leads, based within your local Early Years Stronger Practice Hub will support early years educators to strengthen their practice through providing free-to-access high-quality CPD and bespoke support. Together, these will help practitioners to build children's confidence and understanding in early mathematics, creating strong foundations for future learning.

Whether you're looking to deepen your team's knowledge or embed maths more effectively through play and daily routines, your Early Maths Lead will be there to support you.



Why learn more about early maths?

The right support in those early years can make a crucial difference to a child's future.

Early maths matters. Children's mathematical understanding when they start school is a strong predictor of later achievement in maths and is closely linked to overall educational success.

Together we can improve outcomes. While maths remains one of the areas which fewer children achieve the expected level of development by the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage, early years educators can make a significant difference to children's mathematical development.

Everyday experiences build mathematical thinking. Developing children's confidence and curiosity in maths from an early age lays the foundation for future academic success.

The EYFS emphasises the importance of a broad maths curriculum from birth. This includes not only number, but mathematical knowledge and vocabulary, shape, space and measures, embedded through meaningful play and interactions.

Early Years Stronger Practice CPD (2-4 year olds)

This high-quality, evidence-informed professional development module will help early years educators develop their knowledge, confidence and practice in supporting children's early mathematical development.

Across 6 units aligned with the EYFS overarching principles, early years practitioners will enhance their practice, supporting improved educational outcomes for children through practical approaches that can be embedded into everyday interactions and routines.

Module content

This module will provide educators with easy-to-implement strategies to weave foundational mathematical concepts – such as counting, pattern, shape and measure – naturally into everyday activities.

- **Unit 1: Counting**
  The complexity of how children learn to count. How to support children's early counting skills through everyday practice.

- **Unit 2: Cardinality**
  Strategies to support children to find 'how many' through games and activities.

- **Unit 3: Measurement**
  Overview of the measures that young children typically learn about, including practical activities and language to support their learning.

- **Unit 4: Pattern**
  Knowledge of the different types of patterns that young children engage with and activities to support early patterning.

- **Unit 5: Shape**
  Know the key stages of progression in shape learning and appreciate the variety of shapes that children need to encounter. Knowledge of how to develop children's understanding of shape properties in everyday practice.

- **Unit 6: Space**
  Learn about the important aspects of spatial awareness and exploration in early mathematics. Reflect upon how to support children's spatial development in mathematics and how this could be extended.

Learning Format:

- 1.5 hours of online self-study per unit (9 hours)
- 4 x 1.5 hour facilitated webinars/seminars (6 hours)
- 15 hours of total learning time



Bespoke support

Your setting can apply to your local Early Years Stronger Practice Hub to receive bespoke support from the Early Maths Lead. Early Maths Leads will work alongside setting leaders to develop personalised action plans, helping you to address specific practice needs and strengthen quality early maths education.

Early Years Learning Leads

Early Maths Leads are part of a wider Early Years Learning Leads offer. Support will also be available from Early Language and Personal, Social and Emotional Development Leads, providing a comprehensive professional development and support offer for early years settings.

For more information, and to sign up, contact your local **Early Years Stronger Practice Hub**.

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