

Information for Providers – Maths Champions Programme

National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA) is delighted to invite applications from early years' providers to take part in a research trial (funded by the Education Endowment Foundation partnered with Department for Education) to evaluate the Maths Champions programme. The team of researchers running the research trial are based at University of York and Durham University.

Maths Champions is a programme developed by NDNA which aims to improve the maths skills of children in early years settings by training 'Maths Champions' within nurseries. The Maths Champion should be a senior staff member who is responsible for the quality of maths provision in your setting, and for building the confidence and skills of the practitioners working with children. Participating nurseries will nominate a designated lead as Maths Champion. They will have access to online CPD, resources, and one-to-one advice.

What does the Maths Champions programme involve?

Nominating a Maths Champion (graduate or level 3 in early years leading practice in the setting) and Deputy Maths Champion (qualified to a minimum of level 3 in early years) who will complete:

- An online induction to the programme
- A series of short online courses including developing mathematical confidence in early years, effective coaching, number and shape, space and measure taking up to 2 hours each
- Working with the Maths Champion programme lead from NDNA to audit current practice and plan for improvement
- Ten core activities with children in your setting.

What are the benefits for my nursery?

ALL settings who take part will receive **£500**.

A previous [study](#) of Maths Champions found a potentially positive impact on children's maths attainment.

The Maths Champions programme is fully funded and access is entirely online so there is no cost for releasing staff. The programme will commence in October 2020 once all parent/carer forms are complete and you will have 12 months access to the online programme, if randomly allocated to receive it.

What does the research trial involve?

As part of the trial, 69 settings will be chosen at **random** to receive the Maths Champions programme for **FREE**, the other 69 will continue as normal and form the *important* 'control group'. Randomly selecting which settings receive the programme is essential as it is the best way to find out the impact the programme has on children's attainment. Regardless of whether a setting randomly receives the intervention or the control group, **ALL** settings will:

- Inform and gain consent from parent/carers for children's participation in the research trial
- Share setting and child information with the research team.
- Work with the research team to complete assessments (taking 10 minutes per child) in September 2020 and June 2021.

Who can take part?

Private, voluntary, independent providers based on non-domestic premises/maintained or school nurseries providing nursery provision for 3 and 4 year olds.

Settings wishing to participate cannot currently be part of other EEF trials, the DfE Early Years Professional Development Programme or have previously accessed Maths Champions.

Settings must be able to commit to the expectations of the programme and evaluation.