



Multiply



# Multiply funding values

- The Multiply programme is part of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, in total this will be £560m nationally over the next three years.
- Buckinghamshire has been given a **maximum\*** Multiply allocation of £2,169,616.74 across 3 years:
  - £655,930.64 for 22/23
  - £756,843.05 for 23/24
  - £756,843.05 for 24/25
- Funding is available to Buckinghamshire residents who:
  - do not currently have numeracy qualification representative of GCSE 4+ or equivalent e.g. level 2 functional skills
  - are over 19 years of age
  - are a resident of England for at least 3 years
- Buckinghamshire Adult Learning will lead the project and manage subcontractors on behalf on the Council. Funding to complement but not duplicate existing Adult Education Budget funded provision.

***\*Note: Values are subject to DfE in-year clawback and adjustment***

# Multiply whole project aims

## The Multiply programme support the following:

- Adults who identify as having low confidence with numbers and who want support
- Adults with low number skills who don't realise their maths skills are poor
- Progression pathways for adults to qualifications

## Multiply aims to:

- I. Enable local areas to deliver bespoke adult numeracy interventions through meaningful participation, that boosts people's ability to use maths in their daily home or work life
- II. Provide a new national online platform that offers free personal tutoring and digital training
- III. Build the evidence base on 'what works' in improving functional adult numeracy
- IV. Enable adults to achieve formal qualification that can open doors for them (into a job, progression in a job, or progression to further study)

# Buckinghamshire's chosen interventions areas

Workshops and courses will be developed and delivered to address these areas:

1. Courses designed to increase confidence with numbers for those needing the first steps towards formal numeracy qualifications.
2. Courses designed to help people use numeracy to manage their money.
3. Innovative numeracy programmes delivered together with employers – including courses designed to cover specific numeracy skills required in the workplace
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5. Numeracy activities, courses or provision developed in partnership with community organisations and other partners aimed at engaging the hardest to reach learners

# Course options which could be developed

## Skills Roadshow Maths for fun:

- Reducing maths anxiety by taking maths into the heart of the community e.g., supermarkets, library locations, GP surgeries, health centres, BC Gateway. Offering of a basic skill scan to support individuals to assess their own knowledge with information on clear learning pathways provided.

## Financial Literacy:

- Budgeting: personal budgeting, making your money go further, basic banking: direct debits, savings, interest rates, understanding pay: NI/Tax/ pay slips, safe borrowing: interest rates, credit cards, understanding bank statements, Shopping: calculate discounts, add up the bill, managing a house: insurance, energy bills, council tax, maths for food: healthy eating on a budget, weights, measures, calories and portion

## Maths for Health

- Improving numeracy skills to support people most in need of developing healthy lifestyles to prevent ill health or deterioration of health i.e. understanding traffic light systems on food packaging, recording blood pressure, peak flow readings, understanding weight loss
- Working closely with public health and CCG to ensure the project is in line with public health campaigns and is targeted at those who would benefit the most.

# Course options which could be developed

## Sessions for unemployed

- Working with DWP and restart providers to develop courses to boost awareness and confidence of working with number.
- Develop courses which explore and improve the number skills required for specific sectors job tasks i.e. construction, retail, hospitality, health and social care

## Sessions with employers:

- Research and support employers on how to overcome possible barriers to learning, i.e. releasing staff flexibly, allowing continuous study and achievement of courses or qualifications to support career progression.
- Develop courses to build confidence and competence in topics which are job specific to support employers i.e. using formulas in spreadsheets, pricing up, stock purchasing, problem solving, budgeting, understanding trends
- Develop and implement alternative delivery courses or methods to make learning more accessible.
- Develop numeracy champions in the workplace

# Progress and next steps

## Progress to date

- Buckinghamshire's 3-year investment plan has been submitted and approved by the Department of Education (August 2022).
- Recruitment of Multiply Coordinator (August 2022)

## Next steps

- September 2022 – county-wide advertising campaign to start
- September 2022 - Buckinghamshire Adult Learning to start delivering engagement sessions, workshops and courses
- September 2022 – procure for delivery partners (to deliver from November onwards)
- October 2022 – funding released (year one allocation)
- March 23 – report to be submitted to DfE for year one, detailing impact and financial spend
- April 23 – submission of amended year two and three investment plan