



**Association of Mathematics Education Teachers**

**Newsletter**

**May 2009**

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## Annual Conference:

### Thursday 3 (10:00 am) until Friday 4 September (3:30 pm), Birmingham

A conference for primary and sc mathematics tutors involved in initial teacher education run by AMET. A separate programme for new tutors (Thursday from 10:00 – 4:30). Conference is free for new tutors (i.e. those who are within three years of taking up appointment and who have not attended a previous AMET conference for free). Otherwise total cost is £180.

Book a provisional place with Sue Cronin at [cronins@hope.ac.uk](mailto:cronins@hope.ac.uk).

There will be AMET led sessions and some external speakers (Alison Brunt, Director for Policy and Quality, NCETM, but who has previously led on Primary matters). Items include work on MTL – the Masters for Teaching and Learning; mathematical research; Inclusion – the two CDs, one on dyslexia the other on autism; implications of the Rose and Williams review OR functional maths and diplomas; ICT- related session; working with mentors; and some time looking at mathematical films and animations. Also a pre-view of the new primary and secondary CDs that are being sent to all new ITE students early in September.

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## AMET - Future Directions

For more than a year now, officers of AMET have been meeting with colleagues from four other 'classroom facing' organisations working in the field of mathematics education. This group of five associations comprises AMET, ATM, MA, NAMA and NANAMIC (outline details of the five associations can be found at [www.maths-assocs.org.uk](http://www.maths-assocs.org.uk)). The group has been meeting as the **Meeting of Mathematics Subject Associations (MMSA)**.

One area of discussion has been if and how the five associations could or should work more closely together. NCETM part-funded the services of an independent facilitator/consultant to support these discussions and, at the request of MMSA, he produced a paper setting out, as he saw it, how each of the five associations currently works. He also set out three possible ways forward. [This paper may be found here...](#)

### What's Happening Now?

All five associations have agreed that the paper should be circulated to all members of each of these associations unchanged and at about the same time in the period on or after 12 March 2009. We apologise for the late distribution of this to our members.

Each association also agreed to:

- prepare a 'front sheet' contextualising the paper and outlining their plans for taking the matter forward (this statement).
- capture members' views during a period of consultation, that will run into the summer of 2009.

### Your views?

Many of the issues in the paper were discussed at AMET conference in August/September 2008. AMET would like its members to read the paper and would like to receive the views of members on this matter in advance of the September 2009 conference, when this matter will be taken forward.

The consultation period will run until the end of June 2009.

Email Dave Miller ([eda19@educ.keele.ac.uk](mailto:eda19@educ.keele.ac.uk)) with your views before 30 June.

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#### AMET: Association of Mathematics Education Teachers

Chair: Peter Johnston-Wilder, University of Warwick, Coventry CV4 7AL  
Secretary: Dave Miller, School of PPPP: Education, Keele University, Keele, ST5 5BG.  
Treasurer: Sue Cronin, Liverpool Hope University, Hope Park, Liverpool, L16 9JD.

P.Johnston-Wilder@warwick.ac.uk  
eda19@educ.keele.ac.uk  
cronins@hope.ac.uk

## AMET Online – your new website

[www.ametonline.org.uk](http://www.ametonline.org.uk) : includes a new member's area where you can find many materials. Examples from the last few months include:  
Your email address is your username.

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## AMET contact person

To help us keep our members better informed we are looking to have at least one person at institution as the main contact for us. This will mean receiving a small number of emails, sending them on to colleagues not on our list and helping us to make sure that the CDs for new students on QTS courses arrive on time and are delivered to the correct person.

Email Dave Miller ([eda19@educ.keele.ac.uk](mailto:eda19@educ.keele.ac.uk)) letting us know how many new primary and secondary students you will be expecting in September 2009. It will help if you can give us approximated figures by the end of May.

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## Consultations – AS/A levels

As part of the development process for the mathematics suite of qualifications at level 3, QCA is conducting a national consultation exercise to obtain feedback on its draft criteria for AS/A levels in mathematics, further mathematics, use of mathematics and use of statistics.

The consultation is open from **17 April 2009 until 9 July 2009** and can be found here:

[http://www.qca.org.uk/qca\\_21230.aspx](http://www.qca.org.uk/qca_21230.aspx)

AMET is expecting to put together a response to this. If you have any comments please send them to Peter Johnston-Wilder ([P.J.Johnston-Wilder@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:P.J.Johnston-Wilder@warwick.ac.uk)) by Friday 22 May please.

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## Advisory Committee on Mathematics Education (ACME) news

Submission from ACME to the Expert Group on Assessment, January 2009

<http://www.acme-uk.org/downloaddoc.asp?id=114>

Retention of Mathematics Key Stage 2 Tests "damaging to the education of young people" press release

See: <http://www.acme-uk.org/news.asp?id=135>

### ACME news

Can be found at: <http://www.acme-uk.org/default.asp>

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## Council for Subject Associations

Documents from these meetings are found in the member's area of [www.ametonline.org.uk](http://www.ametonline.org.uk)

### CFSA: April meeting 2009

Information here from:

- DCSF on Community cohesion
  - TDA on latest on MTL
  - SSAT on the diploma
  - Becta
  - Screen online
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Also find Bulletin 10 from December 2008.

## CFSA: September meeting 2008

Three documents, one on each of:

- the 2012 Olympics,
- the built environment (Engaging Places)
- Diplomas (as of September 2008).

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## OFSTED: New publications, March 2009

Two new booklets based on the September 2008 report *Mathematics: understanding the score* (from [here](#)). *Mathematics: understanding the score Improving practice in mathematics (primary)* from [www.ofsted.gov.uk/publications/080283](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/publications/080283) and *Mathematics: understanding the score Improving practice in mathematics (secondary)* from [www.ofsted.gov.uk/publications/080284](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/publications/080284).

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## Primary Matters

Every Child Counts <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/localauthorities/index.cfm?action=content&contentID=18535>



**Every Child Counts programme - first term report**  
New data published shows that in the first term of the Every Child Counts programme, children have made an average of 12 months progress over three months with just 20 hours tuition. This means they are progressing at four times the expected rate.

First newsletter can be found at:

[http://www.everychildchancetrust.org/pubs/ECC\\_newsletter\\_1\\_November\\_2008\\_%20final.doc](http://www.everychildchancetrust.org/pubs/ECC_newsletter_1_November_2008_%20final.doc)

## Independent Review of the Primary Curriculum (the Rose Review)

Full report can be found at:

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/primarycurriculumreview/>

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## Secondary Matters

### Functional skills: link to GCSE achieved at Grade C or above

Correspondence between Kathleen Tattersall, Chair of Ofqual, and Jim Knight MP, Minister of State for Schools and Learners, on Functional skills: link to GCSE achieved at Grade C or above can be found on the Ofqual website at <http://www.ofqual.org.uk/2247.aspx>

### QCA related items

QCA has produced a factsheet explaining the changes to GCSE mathematics, which will be taught from September 2010 and some of the implications.

[http://www.qca.org.uk/qca\\_22413.aspx](http://www.qca.org.uk/qca_22413.aspx)

### Ofqual and pair of GCSEs in mathematics

#### Ofqual Approval of Criteria for Pair of GCSEs

Excellent news in that the pair of mathematics GCSEs have negotiated another huge hurdle on the road to full roll out – the independent regulator has approved their progression to piloting from 2010. ACME's press release in response to the announcement can be found here.

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