

ACME Conference 2012

Show your working:
ensuring mathematics education policy is well-informed

Tuesday 10 July 2012 • 9.30 to 16.45 • The Royal Society, London



The Advisory Committee on Mathematics Education (ACME) was established in January 2002 by the Royal Society and the Joint Mathematical Council of the UK, with the explicit backing of all major mathematics organisations.

Invitation from the ACME Chair



We are delighted to invite you to attend the annual Advisory Committee on Mathematics Education (ACME) Conference 2012. This event brings together teachers, policymakers and other stakeholders to discuss timely mathematics education issues and to inform ACME's views. From the National Curriculum review to the A-levels and GCSE reforms, there is no shortage of mathematics education policies to discuss.

This year, the conference will start to debate how the new National Curriculum should be implemented and will also explore issues related to post-16 mathematics, a project ACME is currently leading on. There will be an opportunity to hear from some influential speakers and to debate and discuss issues such as primary mathematics and provision for able mathematics students. The annual conference is a key part of our work and it is a chance for the mathematics community and others to contribute and input into ACME's work.

We hope you are able to join us at this important event and we look forward to welcoming you on 10 July.

ACME Chair

Professor Stephen Sparks FRS

The ACME Annual Conference is FREE to attend.

To apply for your free place, please use our guest booking system

www.acme-uk.org/eventbooking or call **020 8241 2249**



“ACME’s role is to provide independent and timely advice to Government and others on mathematics education. Gaining an understanding of mathematics, and being confident to use it in a variety of situations, is important for all students.” Professor Stephen Sparks FRS

Agenda & format

Registration will open at 9.30 and refreshments will be available. The conference starts at 10.00 and will finish at 16.45. Lunch and refreshments will be provided throughout the day.

The agenda for the day is designed to be informative, interactive and thought-provoking. Delegates will have the opportunity to listen to influential stakeholders across the mathematics education landscape and to contribute to discussions and debates. The day will also include a discussion session on the following themes:

- ACME’s post-16 mathematics project
- Initial teacher education and CPD
- Supporting and developing able mathematicians
- Primary mathematics.

A full description on these sessions can be found on the following page.

Registration

The event is open to all organisations and individuals with an interest in mathematics education. There is a restriction of 150 guests and places will be allocated to ensure there is a wide representation of teachers and organisations. We anticipate that the event will be oversubscribed, so please register as quickly as possible. If you have any questions, please email acme@smooth-events.co.uk

Funding for teachers

The ACME conference is free to attend and there is additional funding for teachers and practitioners working within schools and colleges. You can apply for funding of your travel expenses and supply cover up to a maximum of £200 when registering at www.acme-uk.org/eventbooking. ACME can also supply a letter of support to your headteacher, if needed.

Who would benefit from attending?

The ACME conference is open to all organisations and individuals with an interest in mathematics education policy. It will be relevant to:

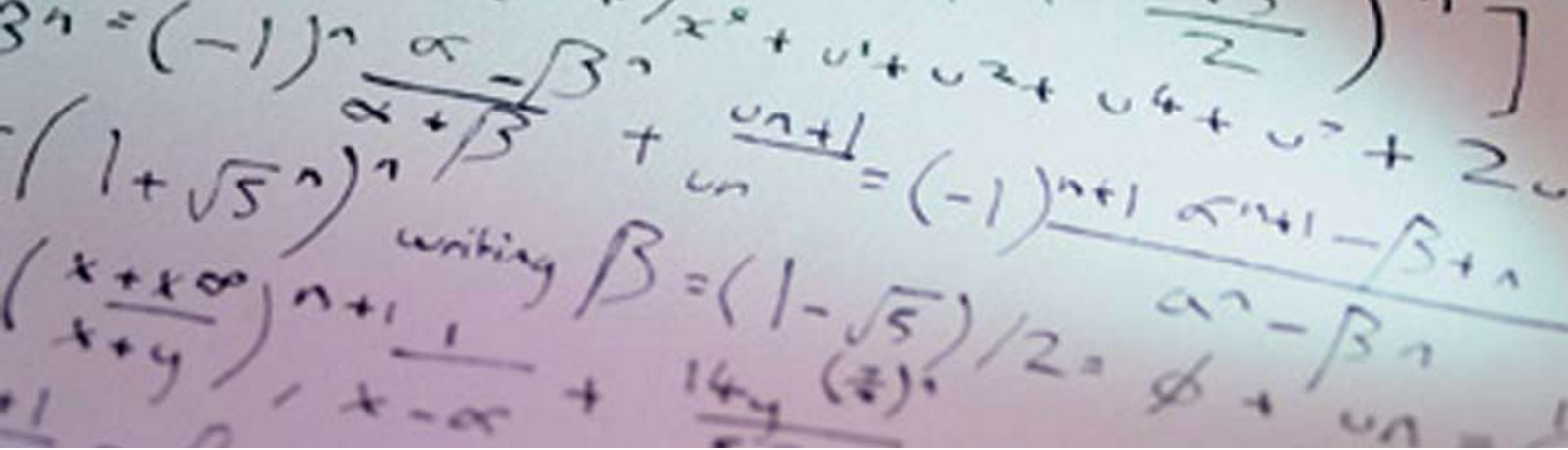
- Teachers and practitioners
- Learned societies and professional bodies
- Training providers
- Employers of STEM graduates
- Education researchers
- Higher education
- Government and agencies involved with education



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Group discussions

There will be a discussion session during the day, to allow all attendees to debate some current mathematics issues. Delegates are able to select one breakout group from the following options. Please refer to the descriptions below when making your selection on the guest booking system.

Group 1: ACME's post-16 mathematics paper

ACME is currently taking a leading role in the mathematics and wider subject communities in formulating advice for the DfE on how to foster substantial increases in participation in post-16 mathematics. This session will aim to discuss and comment on an 'options paper' relating to post-16 mathematics, in order to inform future recommendations. The paper will describe and analyse potential models for the structure and content of routes of progression for those students who have previously attained GCSE A*-C in mathematics.

Group 2: Initial teacher education and CPD

In the summer, ACME intends to launch a new policy study on ITE and CPD in mathematics. This discussion will be an opportunity to debate and input on the key issues that should be part of the study and how they should be taken forward.

Group 3: Supporting and developing able mathematicians

This session will examine how students with a particular aptitude for mathematics (the top 20%/2%/0.5% or less) can best be supported in and beyond the curriculum; the outcome will be a draft ACME position paper. The participants will discuss what provision would ensure that all able young mathematicians have the opportunity to be appropriately taught, motivated and challenged; how that compares with current provision; and what policy changes would bridge the gap.

Group 4: Primary mathematics

This discussion will focus on the teaching of primary mathematics, rather than the content. It will explore issues such as what makes a good teacher of primary mathematics and the definition of a primary mathematics specialist, in order to inform ACME policy positions.

About ACME

The Advisory Committee on Mathematics Education was established in January 2002 by the Royal Society and the Joint Mathematical Council of the UK. It is an independent standing committee, with the aim of providing national policy advice in England on matters of 5-19 mathematics education. The purpose of having an independent Advisory Committee

on Mathematics Education was to put in place an effective and constructive partnership between policy makers and the mathematics community. ACME is currently supported by the Department for Education, the Royal Society, the Wellcome Trust, Gatsby and a range of other organisations across the STEM landscape.

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