

## Evaluation of the Maths Excellence Fund: United Learning United Excellence Programme

Dear Parent / Guardian,

We are writing to let you know that your child's school is participating in a maths programme. The goal of this programme is to prepare more students aged 11 to 18 to do well in A-level maths and beyond. This initiative, called the United Excellence Programme, is funded by the Maths Excellence Fund (which is managed by Purposeful Ventures). It is being evaluated by the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER). The aim of the evaluation is to improve understanding of the activities that support student attainment and progress in maths. The findings from this evaluation will help inform the design and delivery of this programme, and other similar programmes, which will be beneficial for students in terms of their maths achievement and progression.

### **How does the maths programme work?**

The United Excellence Programme involves a range of maths-related activities, some of which may be available to your child. Activities could include, for example, maths lessons with a deepened curriculum, maths enrichment opportunities (e.g. maths clubs, maths awards and celebrations, speaker events), guidance about future transitions (e.g. activities to support post-16 choices and university visits). There will also be opportunities for parental involvement, including regular updates about their child's progress and access to support resources. Your child's school will let you know more about the opportunities available and when they will be taking place.

### **What are the evaluation activities for my child?**

The evaluation will include the following key activities:

- an online survey at the start, middle and end of the evaluation for certain classes/year groups to explore students' enjoyment of maths, their aspirations/choices, and their perceived progress; and to explore their views on programme activities if they have taken part. If your child's class is selected to complete this survey the evaluation will collect student characteristics (name, date-of-birth, Pupil Premium/post-16 bursary eligibility, year group, gender, if they have English as an additional language (EAL), if they have a special educational need or disability (SEND), their previous attainment) to be matched into the survey data.

The evaluation will also include the following if your child takes part in any programme activities:

the collection of monitoring data about your child so we can track their involvement in the programme and explore the impact of the programme for different groups of students. This data will be collected directly from the school. Data will include:

- student characteristics (name, date-of-birth, Pupil Premium/post-16 bursary eligibility, year group, gender, if they have English as an additional language (EAL), if they have a special educational need or disability (SEND), their previous attainment

- participation in programme activities (for example, name/description of activity, length of activity, no. of sessions/hours, frequency, any satisfaction/feedback data collected by the programme team)
- maths course choice and attainment data (for example, where relevant, GCSE Mathematics predicted grade, actual GCSE Mathematics score, A-level Mathematics attainment).

### **Data protection and privacy**

Some basic data about your child will be collected from your child's school, as listed above. All data for each child will be kept strictly confidential and only used for delivering and evaluating the programme. All parties involved comply with GDPR requirements and have robust GDPR procedures in place.

Further information about this evaluation can be found on the project web page [here](#).

The web page includes links to a range of study privacy notices, including one for students. The student privacy notice summarises what personal data will be collected relating to your child, and how this data will be collected, used, shared and protected. ***No student will be named in any report arising from this work.***

### **Can I withdraw my child from the evaluation?**

We really hope you agree to your child being included in this evaluation. The more data we include, the more robust the evaluation will be, which will enable us to maximise the benefits of maths programmes for students and support their progression. If you are happy for your child's data to be used for this research, **you do not need to do anything**. Although we value your child's participation in this evaluation and its contribution to important findings, if you would prefer their data not to be shared, stored and used for this research, you can withdraw your child at any time. To do so, please complete the form below and return it to your child's school/college. The school/college will then ensure that your child's data is not shared as part of the evaluation. Withdrawing from the evaluation will not impact your child's involvement in the maths programme, just their inclusion in the evaluation. If you withdraw your child from the evaluation, we will use any data we have collected up to that point unless you ask us to delete it.

### **Who can I contact for further information?**

If you have any queries about the United Excellence Programme, please contact [Amanda Whitehead](#) or [Alec Linton](#).

If you have any queries about the evaluation, please contact us via email at: [MEF@nfer.ac.uk](mailto:MEF@nfer.ac.uk).

Yours sincerely,

Kathryn Hurd  
Evaluation and Survey Operations Lead

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## Withdrawal form from data processing for parents

You only need to complete this form if you **DO NOT** wish your child's data to be shared, stored and used for this evaluation.

I **DO NOT** give permission for data about my child that is collected as part of the delivery or evaluation to be stored or used for research purposes.

Your child's name.....

Name of school.....

Your full name.....

Your signature..... Date.....