

# Essex Year of



## Project Directory

September 2023



## A foreword from Roy Blatchford CBE, Chair of the Essex Education Task Force

### Everyone Counts

'Everyone's Essex' sets out a strategic aim to make Essex a good place for children and families to grow. In the wake of the global pandemic and its impact on the school system, the county set up an independent task force to improve outcomes and well-being for children and young people.

Three ambitious goals were adopted:

- All children in Essex reading at least in line with their age
- 80 – 85% of pupils at 11+ and 16+ reaching expected standards in English and maths
- All schools in Essex having good pupil attendance, wellbeing and personal development.

By 2025, **£3.5 million** will have been invested by the Essex Education Task Force in pre-school and early years settings, schools, further education and the voluntary sector. This of course is in addition to their regular funding streams. As part of the Task Force, two front-running campaigns – Essex Year of Reading and the current Essex Year of Numbers – were launched to support children and adults in developing key academic skills.

The years 2022–23 were designated as the **Essex Year of Reading**. It proved an outstanding success, bringing together so many different people, providers and services to promote the joy of reading and I would like to thank everyone for their important contributions to this campaign. Its legacy is perhaps best captured in the phrase everyone is now using: 'every year is a year of reading'. And all schools continue to focus keenly on ensuring that all Essex children read at least in line with their actual age, the golden key to educational opportunities.

The equally powerful **Essex Year of Numbers** is running in 2023–2024, this is a parallel investment in the importance of numbers and maths in all our lives. There is one simple ambition: **Everyone Counts**. No adult or child in Essex should be happy to say 'I'm no good at maths' and the Essex Year of Numbers will ensure adults, young people and children will have the opportunity to boost their maths skills.

And in schools, a similar single ambition: to push for the highest attainment in maths for all children, irrespective of their starting points.



Essex as a county never does anything by halves. Once an idea is launched, folk get on with delivering! Already this summer Essex Country Parks and Essex Libraries services have combined to provide a super range of events for children and families linked to fun with numbers: the Read and Count With Me book bags are inspiring!

### **Everyone Counts: four pillars**

There are four main pillars of work for the coming year, and to which this Directory will provide a guide:

1. **Numeracy and maths skills** – numbers and numeracy matter
2. **Maths populism** – everybody uses numbers every day
3. **Numeracy, maths and industry** – employers need maths skills
4. **Parents and families** – learning together, inspiring children to love numbers and be proud of their maths work.

The government funded programme – Multiply – is also supporting these pillars by delivering a range of courses for adults, giving them confidence in budget management, general maths skills and employment opportunities an uplift.

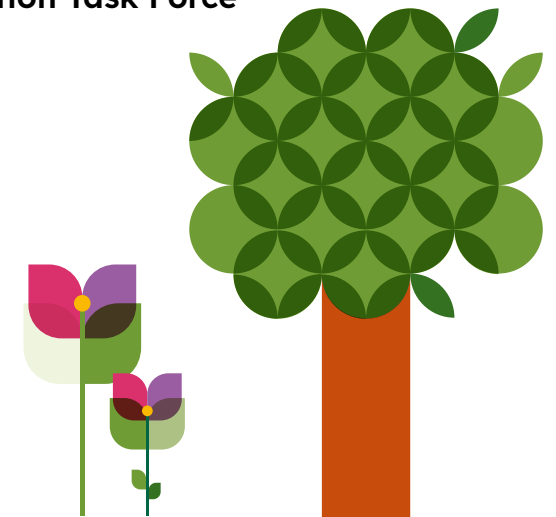
Over the coming months, a rich array of motivating events and innovative activities for all ages will unfold.

Let's get Essex counting - in every family, every business, every community.

Please join in the fun - fun with the serious purpose of making numbers accessible to everyone.

And if you have a bright idea to promote Everyone Counts, email this address and we'll see if we can find a way to support you! Please send any ideas to [essex.yearofnumbers@essex.gov.uk](mailto:essex.yearofnumbers@essex.gov.uk)

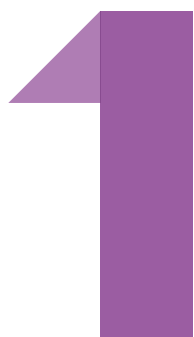
**Roy Blatchford CBE,  
Chair, Essex Education Task Force**



Take a look at the events, activities and support available across the county during the Essex Year of Numbers.

For more information about any of the activities available in this booklet, please contact [essex.yearofnumbers@essex.gov.uk](mailto:essex.yearofnumbers@essex.gov.uk)

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## Maths Populism

### Key

- Early Years Foundation Stage
- Key Stage 1: Years 1 to 2 (5-7 years old)
- ▴ Key Stage 2: Years 3 to 6 (7-11 years old)
- ⬠ Key Stage 3: Years 7 to 9 (11-14 years old)
- ▾ Key Stage 4: Years 10 to 11 (14-16 years old)
- ⬡ Key Stage 5: More commonly referred to as College or Sixth Form. Covers Years 12 to 13 (16-18 years old)
- ▵ All Key stages
- ★ Parents
- ★ Special schools

### Launching in schools now: Lord Lieutenant competition!

The Lord Lieutenant has launched a competition to kick-off the Essex Year of Numbers. Children and young people will create a 2D/3D display (maximum size 1m<sup>2</sup> or 1m<sup>3</sup>), together with a short video presentation creatively showing the many ways numbers are used in everyday life. The entry could include number patterns, diagrams, calculations, explanations, photographs and models, and offers the chance for students to think creatively about maths and its every-day applications.

For more information, visit [essexyearofnumbers.co.uk](https://essexyearofnumbers.co.uk)

### Maths fun at the libraries

**October 2023 half-term, February 2024 half-term, Easter Holidays**

#### All Key Stages

A range of exciting events for all age groups with interesting activities and exclusive author and maths populist visits. These events will engage children and young people in maths and numbers and inspire a love of learning.

All further information can be found here: [libraries.essex.gov.uk](https://libraries.essex.gov.uk)



## Maths Populism

### A Place for Numbers



**Key Stage 2; Key Stage 3; Key Stage 4**  
Shopping, ingredients, budgeting, stock counts and discounts are all examples of how maths is a part of everyday life. Essex Community Supermarkets provide opportunities for safe, real-life experiences that use numbers.

The Community Supermarkets, located in Jaywick, Basildon, Chelmsford, Colchester and Canvey Island are ready to facilitate visits from students in the key stages shown for fun, engaging activities aimed at boosting maths skills.



### Active Maths Festival



**Braintree, Basildon, Castle Point, Harlow and Tendring**

**Key Stage 1; Key Stage 2**

The exciting Active Maths Festival is coming to your school to energize the children, and boost their maths skills. The Festival will engage students in a series of maths challenges, delivered through physical activity and sport.

There will also be opportunities for school staff to attend a Continuous Professional Development workshop, to provide ideas and resources for embedding the practice into every day teaching and learning.

### Every Move Counts



**Key Stage 1; Key Stage 2; Key Stage 3; Key Stage 4**

Dancing is not just excellent exercise and a source of joy for many, it is also a mathematical experience that uses skill to co-ordinate movements in time to music and beat.

The Every Move Counts project is being delivered by the Dance Network Association (DNA) across Essex with schools and Older People through intergenerational dance. Celebrate the maths in the movement with this unique experience for children and young people.



## Maths Populism

### Lab in the Library

#### All Key Stages

The popular Lab in the Library sessions are back for the Essex Year of Numbers. Sixteen exciting maths and science-based sessions run by the Library Service across the county. There are only 20 spaces per session, so we encourage parents to book quickly to avoid disappointment.

For more information and to book, visit [libraries.essex.gov.uk](http://libraries.essex.gov.uk)



### Lego in the Library

#### All Key Stages

The Lego in the Library project has been extended into six additional libraries in Essex exclusively for the Year of Numbers. Children in every district of the county will have the chance to develop their problem-solving, literacy and coding skills.

For more information, visit [libraries.essex.gov.uk](http://libraries.essex.gov.uk)



### Library Outreach events

#### EYFS; Key Stage 1; Key Stage 2

The Library Service is hosting a variety of fun numeracy-focussed events in locations across Essex throughout the Year of Numbers campaign.

From Story and Rhyme Times to crafts and physical activities, there is something for everyone.



## Maths Populism

### Numbers Rock



#### EYFS, Key Stage 1

Through the Memory Café Partnership, and in conjunction with Essex Libraries, the Numbers Rock project promotes intergenerational learning and age-friendly activities through creativity, nature and stories. The events will see multiple different generations coming together to create an art trail centred around numbers, as well as story sacks with a numbers theme.



### Read and Count With Me Under a Tree



#### EYFS; Key Stage 1; Key Stage 2

Now available for families to borrow at all local County Parks, the Read and Count With Me Under a Tree bookbags are packed full of stories, activity sheets and top tips for families to use in the great outdoors.

For more information, visit [essexyearofnumbers.co.uk](http://essexyearofnumbers.co.uk)



### Volunteer-led activities with the Youth Advisory Board



#### All key stages

Funded by the Essex Education Task Force, the new Essex Youth Advisory Board has been launched to support Duke of Edinburgh Silver applicants put on volunteer-led numeracy events in the community.





## Maths Populism

### Essex Country Parks Halloween Mysteries trail



**Key stage 1; Key stage 2; Key stage 3**  
Hosted by Explore Essex, the Halloween Mysteries trail kicks-off this autumn across selected Essex Country parks. Families will meet lots of spooky characters on their quest to find the mystery magic number!

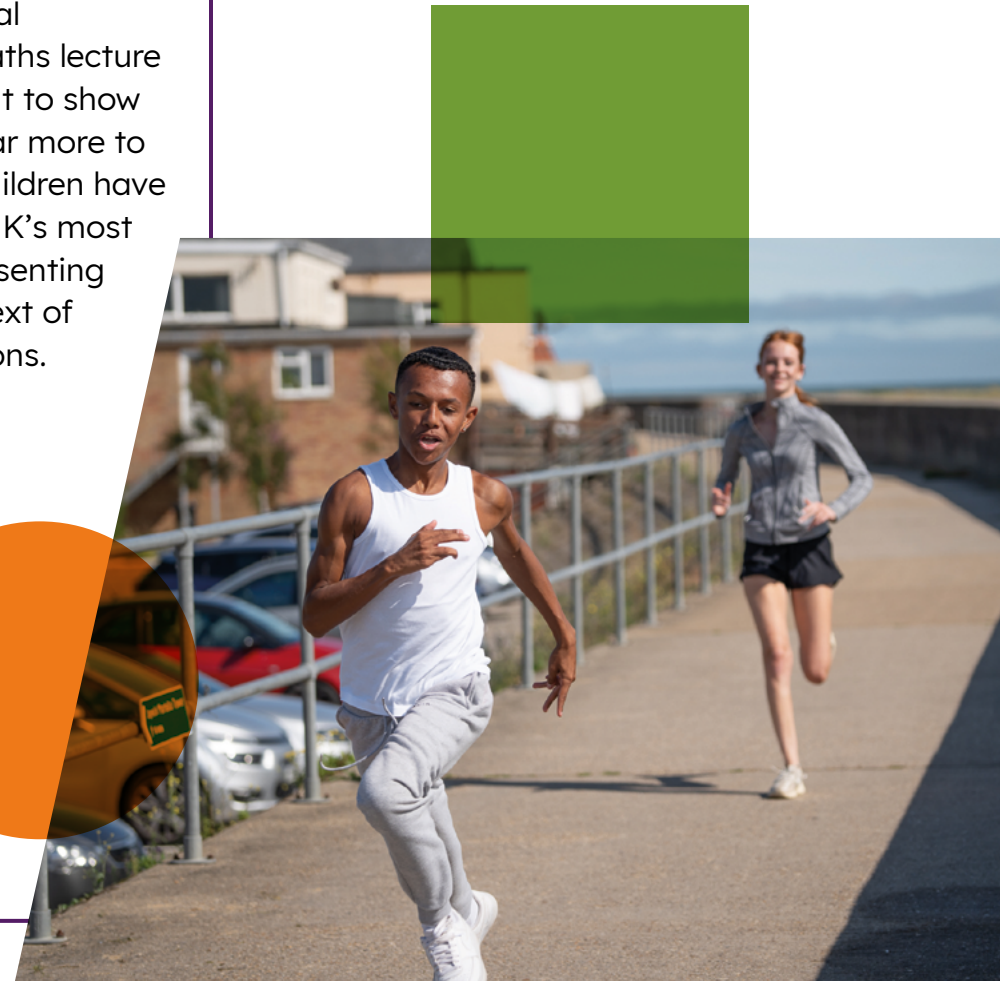
Schools can also attend a **free forest school session** with the education rangers. Children will make potions and broomsticks, have marshmallows toasted on a camp fire, and take part in a spooky scavenger hunt – all with numeracy learning opportunities weaved in throughout.

For more information about the trail, visit [essexyearofnumbers.co.uk](http://essexyearofnumbers.co.uk) or for the forest school sessions, contact the Essex Year of Numbers team.

### Maths Inspiration – April 2024



**Key stage 4**  
Maths Inspiration is a national programme of interactive maths lecture shows for teenagers. We want to show 14-17 year olds that there's far more to maths than taking exams. Children have a chance to experience the UK's most inspiring maths speakers presenting mathematics live in the context of exciting, real-world applications.



## Maths Skills

### 1st class at numbers

#### Key stage 1

Run by the Education Endowment Foundation separately from the Year of Numbers, the 1st class at numbers is a small-group intervention delivered by TA's to support pupils struggling with numeracy in Year 2 to boost maths skills in young children.

For more information, please contact Siobhan Keddie;  
[Siobhan.Keddie@eefoundation.org.uk](mailto:Siobhan.Keddie@eefoundation.org.uk)



### Number Stacks

#### Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2

Number Stacks uses a unique combination of stackable place-value counters and video tutorials to enable any adult, regardless of teaching experience, to help children master the foundations of the number system.

As part of the Essex Year of Numbers, schools will be provided with free access to the Number Stacks kit of resources, and a free copy of the Sandwell Early Numeracy Test to support impact measurement.



### Essex Educational Psychology Service Key Stage 1 Maths Intervention

#### Key Stage 1

This research and evidence-based intervention by the Educational Psychology Service is shown to double the rate of children's early number development.

The service hosts a programme of 20-minute number-based learning sessions that students join in small groups, designed to boost the basic skills of the lowest achieving pupils. The sessions are delivered daily over a period of 12 weeks.

Schools taking part will also receive two half-day support sessions delivered in school, by a trained Assistant Educational Psychologist, as well as the Sandwell Numeracy test.

### Essex Educational Psychology Service Key Stage 3 Maths Intervention

#### Key Stage 3

This targeted maths intervention has been informed by instructional psychology principles and will deliver 20-minute individual or small group sessions three times per week for 10 weeks.

Schools taking part will also receive a free copy of the Sandwell Numeracy test, and an online support session of one hour per school.

### Maths tutoring

#### Key Stage 2

The Essex Library Service will be offering free tutoring in participating libraries for children in Year 6 prior to the SATS season (January 24 – May 24).

Locations will be determined during the autumn term and will be publicised in the next edition of the project directory in November.

### Eco-refills shop

#### Key stage 2

KS2 Children will have the opportunity to become mini entrepreneurs with their very own monthly ECO Refill Shop.

40 schools across the county will be supplied with an enterprise training toolkit, which will support 20 children per school run a small eco-refill business each month, stocked with wonderful eco-friendly products. Pupils will be challenged to write a business plan, apply for job roles, and learn how to evaluate the effectiveness of their business. You'll also receive £200 worth of eco-friendly products to get your refill business off to a great start!

Products and toolkits will be delivered in November/December, with shops starting in January.



### HSBC local support

#### All key stages

HSBC's UK Education Programme helps young people of all ages to learn about money. The education programme can be tailored to focus on specific age groups and needs so that you can get the most from each session.

At the heart of the HSBC UK programme is the opportunity to build the fundamental maths and numeracy skills required by each curriculum across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Important to this aspect of the financial education framework are:

- understanding the value of money
- performing calculations with money
- understanding currencies
- appreciating how money works
- understanding borrowing and calculating interest

Each session lasts up to one hour and follows the HSBC UK learning framework of introduce, discuss and use, allowing for interactive learning and ongoing development of ideas beyond the session itself.

To arrange for one or more of the sessions, digitally or in person for your school, college, university, charity or youth group please email [educationteam@hsbc.com](mailto:educationteam@hsbc.com)



### Coding Success with the Ministry of Defence

#### Key Stage 2, Key Stage 3

The Royal Armed Forces Youth and STEM Team run a national programme of STEM engagement that includes In School STEM Days (including live and online activities), multi activity days, competitions, residential courses, and the development of downloadable learning resources.

The Royal Armed Forces STEM team will provide 26 schools across the county with an exclusive Coding Success package, including £1,000 worth of Lego Spike Robotics equipment, in-year extension packs and association teacher training.

The RAF team will also provide five face-to-face robotics/coding days in Essex schools.

For more information, please contact the Essex Year of Numbers team.

### **Maths with the Mercury Theatre**

#### **Key stage 2**

Using creative arts participation and theatre, the Mercury Theatre will be delivering a theatre tour to upper KS2 pupils to schools in Tendring, Harlow and Colchester to bring the everyday magic of numeracy to life.

Pupils involved in the tour will also have the opportunity to workshop ideas for a new two-actor play that will show at other schools within the county, providing children with a rewarding and creative experience.





## Support for parents

### First Words that Count



#### Parents

Embedding maths skills from early childhood can be difficult for parents, especially if they themselves struggle with maths.

Parents can speak to library staff, volunteers and Essex County Council Early Years staff for further advice and guidance on the language of maths.

### Multiply



#### Parents

For parents who need support with managing their money, helping their child with their schoolwork or to boost their confidence at work, Multiply are on hand to support through a variety of face-to-face and virtual learning.

For more information, please visit [essexwww.essexopportunities.co.uk/multiply](http://essexwww.essexopportunities.co.uk/multiply)



Got a great idea for boosting maths skills,  
but need some funding?

Contact the team: [essex.yearofnumbers@essex.gov.uk](mailto:essex.yearofnumbers@essex.gov.uk)

For more information, visit [essexyearofnumbers.co.uk](http://essexyearofnumbers.co.uk)  
or contact [essex.yearofnumbers@essex.gov.uk](mailto:essex.yearofnumbers@essex.gov.uk)

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