



Education
Scotland
Foghlam Alba

National Numeracy Day 17th May 2023

Promoting number confidence

For Scotland's learners, with Scotland's educators

What is National Numeracy Day?

- Annual campaign to promote number confidence for everyone
- Run by UK charity, National Numeracy
- Education Scotland is a lead delivery partner
- Activities and resources for individuals and organisations

Themes:

- Numeracy for work
- Managing money
- Supporting children



Why National Numeracy Day?

- Lack of number skills limits opportunities
- Lack of confidence holds people back from seeking help

“The impact of the economic [Covid-19] crisis has been disproportionately felt by those with low numeracy skills” ([Counting on the Recovery, 2021](#)). It is particularly important at the moment, as households continue to face financial challenges, that we highlight the importance of being number confident and knowing how and where to get help to improve maths skills.

“I left school without any qualifications. I missed out on so much because I was frightened of trying numeracy.”



How does this link to ESOL and the bigger picture?

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals:

Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Target 8.8. Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment

HGIOCLD?4 Quality Indicator 1.2 Improvements in equality, diversity and inclusion

How well do we meet our requirements to be proactive in working towards the elimination of discrimination and prejudice, to ensure participants are clear about their rights and entitlements, and to advance equality of opportunity?

Do ESOL learners know their rights at work and how to exercise them? Do they understand their entitlements to minimum wage, sick pay, holiday pay? Do they know how to check their wage slips?

How does this link to ESOL and the bigger picture?

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals:

Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Target 4.5 By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations

HGIOCLD?4 Quality Indicator 1.2 Improvements in equality, diversity and inclusion

How successfully do we remove barriers to access and participation and monitor our approaches to ensure they are effective in reducing barriers to participation?

Do we offer childcare or schedule ESOL classes to remove barriers to women taking part? Is it equally straightforward for men and women to gain ESOL qualifications? Do we encourage women ESOL learners to aim for further learning and employment in STEM areas?

Why should I sign up for National Numeracy Day?

1. Practical advice from celebrities and experts

[How to make your money go further? | National Numeracy Day 2021 – YouTube](#)

2. Inspirational stories from real-life learners

[Christine talks about how numbers helped her feel more independent - YouTube](#)

[Dyscalculia | Jane's Experience – YouTube](#)

3. Free online events and resources

[What is maths anxiety? | National Numeracy](#)

[Attitudes video - nervous - YouTube](#)



National Numeracy Day sign up | National Numeracy

- Free, fun materials and resources to use and share
- Over 4,800 organisations signed up last year
- Access to the Numeracy Challenge – online number skills checker – signposts to resources to improve number skills



What happened last year in Scotland?

- 861 individuals and organisations signed up to be **National Numeracy Day Champions** (133% increase on 2021)
- Of these, 39 sign ups were from CLD* practitioners (70% increase on 2021)
- 18% of Champion organisations across the UK were from Scotland (increase from 13% in 2021)

“I didn't realise so much went on around National Numeracy Day and now I want to get involved in my area too”

Participant at CLD Numeracy Practitioner Network meeting.

“We saw incredible champion engagement in Scotland by Education Scotland and the Scottish Government”

National Numeracy Day Impact Report, June 2022



What can I do?

- Run an online or in person event to promote number confidence
- A “Big Number Natter” for ESOL learners – the language of time, giving directions, comparisons
- A family learning event – the language of number and maths in schools
- Circulate resources to learners/parents
- Promote the campaign to your colleagues/ organisation
- Promote the campaign via social media



To find out more

Education Scotland blog with links [National Numeracy Day 2023. Will you be a numbers champion? | ES Community Learning & Development \(glowscotland.org.uk\)](#)

National Numeracy Website [National Numeracy Day - 17 May 2023](#)





Oonagh McGarry
Education Officer

Oonagh.mcgarry@educationscotland.gov.uk

Education Scotland

Denholm House
Almondvale Business Park
Almondvale Way
Livingston EH54 6GA

T +44 (0)131 244 5000

E enquiries@educationscotland.gsi.gov.uk

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