



**University of
Nottingham**
UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA



**Observatory for
Mathematical
Education**

Dear Headteacher,

Improving maths education remains a national priority. Yet, often the large-scale evidence needed to improve young people's learning is not available. To address this challenge, the University of Nottingham has established the groundbreaking Observatory for Mathematical Education. Please join us to help improve maths education policy and practice.

I am writing to invite your school to be part of the largest ever study of maths education in England. Our Secondary Cohort Study will follow 30,000 learners through 150 secondary schools over 7 years to better understand learner attitudes and engagement.

The key features of each annual cycle of the research programme are pupil surveys following the same group of children from Year 7 in 2024/25 until they leave in Year 11 or 13, and short surveys for teachers of mathematics and curriculum leaders. In schools with post-16 provision, A-level Mathematics students will be surveyed in Year 12 (2025) and Year 13 (2026). Further information on the cohort study is enclosed and there are FAQs on our website.

Participation in this prestigious research is by invitation only. Your school has been selected as part of a representative sample of secondary schools.

As a Research Partner School you will receive £1000 per annum, and anonymised cohort study reports.

Many things are asked of schools, so we are grateful for your consideration. We are also sending a copy of this letter via email and would appreciate hearing back from you within two weeks.

I hope that we can welcome you as a Research Partner School very soon.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew J Noyes.

Professor Andrew Noyes
Director – Observatory for Mathematical Education
Chair, Joint Mathematical Council of the UK
Royal Society Advisory Committee for Mathematics Education

University of Nottingham
www.nottingham.ac.uk/observatory