

### About The Speakers

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#### **Helen Blanchard      Education Consultant**

Helen Blanchard, Educational Consultant. Helen has nearly thirty years' experience in the classroom, working with pupils at key stages two, three, four and five. Her roles have included subject leader, assistant head teacher, Advanced Skills Teacher and National Strategies regional adviser for mathematics and functional skills. Since April 2011, she has been working as an independent consultant and Ofsted inspector. She has a wealth of experience supporting teachers on improving pedagogy and classroom practice, and working with senior and subject leaders to raise attainment in mathematics departments and whole-school. Her session title is 'Problem Solving in Maths - The Five Year Journey'. This will cover

- Ensuring progression in problem-solving from year 7 to year 11
- Pedagogies and resources for developing problem-solving skills
- Assessing pupils' problem-solving ability

#### **Graham Cumming      Edexcel**

Graham Cumming taught in North and East London before joining the mathematics team at the then London University Exams Board. He is now responsible for any number of tasks to do with GCE and GCSE mathematics examinations, but most famously for maintaining the Mathematics Emporium, now available at [www.edexcelmaths.com](http://www.edexcelmaths.com)

#### **Prof James Davenport      Bath University**

Prof James Davenport, University of Bath. Research interests include computer algebra, especially symbolic integration and simplification, equation solving, electronic mathematical publishing and "mathematics on the (semantic) Web", robot motion planning and cryptography, especially cracking US public-key cryptosystems. He has also published in complexity theory, type theory and in networking. Outside interests include examining French PhDs. [www.bath.ac.uk/comp-sci/contacts/academics/james\\_davenport](http://www.bath.ac.uk/comp-sci/contacts/academics/james_davenport)

#### **Tom Ding, Arc Academy Wembley**

Tom Ding is a maths teacher at Ark Academy in Wembley, where he teaches KS3 and KS4. After graduating from Cambridge he spent five years working as a strategist at various advertising agencies, before moving into teaching in 2013. In his training year he wrote an assignment on game-based learning and co-ordinated a school-wide 'Mangahigh Madness' competition at Ark Academy. This competition resulted in the school topping the national league Mangahigh league table, and he is currently working on a follow-up for this academic year.

#### **Chris Green      Mangahigh**

Chris Green is the Director of Blended Learning for Mangahigh. Along with being involved in product design, he also focuses on how to embed online resources into structured teaching programmes. Earlier in his career, Chris was a secondary maths and drama teacher. Today he works with teachers across the globe in developing Mangahigh's game-based math resources. Chris earned maths and teaching degrees at Northumbria and Durham Universities. Chris has written teacher guides to complement OUP's textbooks and delivered training to teachers in Australia, USA, Lebanon and India.

#### **Prof. Phil John      Heriot Watt University**

Professor Phillip John, SCHOLAR Programme, Heriot-Watt University, was born in the Rhondda Valley, South Wales into a mining family. He is currently Senior Dean of the University and Professor of Chemistry. He has published over 165 papers, eight patents and supervised 31 PhDs and had extensive learning and teaching experience. In the past three years, Chemistry at Heriot Watt has been ranked 2nd, 1st and 3rd in the National Student Survey (NSS) ranking the student experience amongst all UK University Chemistry Departments and is top for Chemistry in the 2015 Guardian University Guide. In 2000 he led the development team in the creation of e-learning materials for the SCHOLAR courseware ([www.scholar.hw.ac.uk](http://www.scholar.hw.ac.uk)) programme. Since 2002 he has managed the SCHOLAR programme as Executive Chair of the SCHOLAR Forum which delivers complete Higher and Advanced Higher (equivalent to AS and A2) innovative e-learning courses to students in every state secondary school in Scotland (>400), the independent sector (27) and a number of FE Colleges. SCHOLAR is continuing to attract international attention as one of the world's largest e-learning programmes for schools. The SCHOLAR team has successfully integrated the research findings of the PASS-IT assessment programme into the SCHOLAR courseware and

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represents a massive deployment of formative e-assessment in over 20 subjects in mathematics, science, business and modern languages.

#### **Betsan Jones    WJEC Maths Subject Leader**

Betsan is from Pentyrch, South Wales and studied mathematics at Bath University. She spent a number of years as head of mathematics at a Welsh medium comprehensive school before being appointed as subject officer at WJEC in 2009. Her responsibilities include the GCSE Linked Pair, Entry Level qualifications, Functional Skills and the new Level 3 Statistical Problem Solving using Software qualification. She has recently been involved in developing the new GCSEs in Wales and England as well as a new post-16 Core Mathematics qualification.

#### **John Kerr        RGSK**

John Kerr is former CEO of the Edexcel Foundation. John trained as a lawyer and held senior positions with the London Stock Exchange and FSA before his career in education. At the Edge Foundation John sponsored 3 city academies and commissioned the Edge Hotel School. John is advisor and strategy consultant for a number of government agencies and private education bodies in UK and internationally.

#### **Amy Leonard    Transformation Trust**

Amy Leonard – Chief Executive, Transformation Trust. Amy set up the children's charity in early 2009 and became CEO of The Transformation Trust in March 2010. During this time she has overseen some of the Trust's major events from a launch on the London Eye, and establishing Rock Assembly as an annual end-of-term pop concert for 11,000 young people at Wembley Arena. Alongside running the Trust, Amy is a consultant advising a range of organisations on their communications and positioning. Prior to this, Amy was the Corporate Affairs Director at government agency Partnerships for Schools, where she oversaw a team that was responsible for all aspects of corporate affairs, including communications, parliamentary affairs and CSR. Amy has also worked for the Financial Services Authority, as a Government Press Officer, and as a political consultant, focusing on wide range of sectors, including education

#### **Jon Munt        Forest Hill School**

Jon Munt is a senior leader at Forest Hill School in London. In 2007 he managed the transition of his School into a BSF IT managed service and took this opportunity to overhaul the Schools current Management Information System. Over the following years Jon developed and completely moved the schools administrative, registration, assessment, reporting and data analysis procedures into the Management Information System and has established the School as a beacon for good practice. In 2012 after deciding not to renew the BSF IT managed service and appointing a new IT supplier the Management Information System at Forest Hill School became fully integrated with its IT infrastructure and drives the school network, School portal, VLE and third party on line learning resources. Jon has worked with a number of schools and senior leadership teams in the London Borough of Lewisham in developing their Management Information Systems.

#### **Isabel Nisbet    ALEVEL Reform Group**

Isabel Nisbet took up post as Executive Director of ALCAB in April 2014, She was the first Chief Executive of Ofqual, the regulator of qualifications and examinations in England, following a period as Director at the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority and senior roles in the UK civil service. She also led the establishment of two new statutory bodies engaged in regulation of the health professions, including one overseeing postgraduate medical education. From 2011-2014 Isabel worked for Cambridge International Examinations as their Regional Director of Education for South East Asia, based in Singapore.

#### **Matt Parker     Keynote Speaker**

Matt Parker is known as the "stand-up mathematician" and is the only person to hold the prestigious title of London Mathematical Society Popular Lecturer while simultaneously having a sold-out comedy show at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. Matt is always keen to mix his two passions of mathematics and stand-up as well as presenting TV and radio shows.

#### **Kate Richards   Mathematics in Education and Industry**

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Kate, formerly a mathematics teacher, university lecturer and school lead for the RSSCSE has now joined MEI. In this session teachers will have the opportunity to take part in data handling activities and have access to data with structured and open ended investigations designed to prepare learners for the new exciting qualification, Core Maths.

#### **Paul Sceeny City & Guilds**

Paul Sceeny manages City & Guilds' portfolio of maths and English qualifications and learning resources, and has been involved in each of the major applied maths/numeracy initiatives for post-16 and adult learners in every part of the UK over the last 15 years. City & Guilds is the largest non-GCSE awarding organisation for maths qualifications, offering Functional Skills and a highly popular range of 'bite size' qualifications to support personalised learning, as well as a wide range of digital learning resources. It has also recently launched new Level 3 qualification to align with the Government's Core Maths initiative.

#### **Chris Seagar Alcester Academy**

Christian Seager is the Head of Mathematics at Trinity High School in Redditch, Worcestershire. After joining as an NQT in 2005, he quickly progressed to head of department in 2009. In the recent (January 2013) league tables, Trinity was named as the most improved school in England based on the progress made from 2009 to 2012. Christian has taken a department with 42% A\*-C pass rate at GCSE to now two consecutive years above 80%. The results are around 20% above targets with the 3 and 4 levels of progress looking equally impressive. Trinity High School hosted ITV's Daybreak show for GCSE results day showing the country how a school in challenging circumstances can bring the best out of its pupils.

#### **Andrew Taylor AQA**

Andrew Taylor is Head of Mathematics at AQA, one of the four exam boards offering GCSE, A level and other qualifications. Andrew joined AQA in 2001, working in the GCSE team in Manchester. Before that, Andrew taught mathematics for 17 years and was head of department in large comprehensive schools in Cambridgeshire and Manchester.

#### **Pietro Tozzi Gumley House School**

Pietro Tozzi, who has been teaching in London comprehensive schools for 27 years. He has mentored over fifty ITT trainees and NQTs and delivered PGCE training courses at St Mary's University College. Pietro has also taken part in case studies for the Edexcel mathematics team and has assisted in writing our GCSE 2010 modular and Linked Pair Pilot schemes of work. Pietro was nominated for a National Teaching Award in 2010.

#### **Oli Trussell Princes Risborough School, Bucks**

Oli Trussell is a Google Certified Teacher and Google Education Trainer with experience delivering training on a range of scales: from small groups up to conference level. A Maths Teacher by trade, he has spent many years researching what technology works and what doesn't in the classroom environment. He has advanced understanding of Google Apps products and understands how to support schools to leverage the tools to support teaching and learning. Oli understands that school budgets are tightly stretched and knows how to use free web tools to support staff and students. Collaboration and simplicity is at the heart of everything he does. He believes that technology should not be a barrier to learning, but instead offers the chance to do things in a more effective and engaging way inside and outside of the classroom. Experience has taught him that the ease of use that comes with modern web-tools enables even the most tech-resistant teachers to become digitally-literate teachers in no time! Oli is also an experienced coder who has launched popular Google Add-ons such as 'Super Quiz' and 'Form Values'. He can create custom programs, from homework calendars to observation forms - saving you time whilst improving efficiency

#### **Stephen Uden Nationwide Building Society**

Stephen Uden is Head of Corporate Citizenship for Nationwide Building Society, the UK's largest building society. For the past 12 years, Stephen has worked on programmes to create economic opportunity through skills, education and regional development. Stephen joined Nationwide in 2012 from Microsoft where he was responsible

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for the Britain Works programme that helped train 500,000 people over three years. At Nationwide, Stephen is responsible for the organisation's citizenship activities.

#### **Jonathan Wells      Guroo Ltd**

Jonathan Wells is the Founder and MD of Guroo, an 8 year old UK company that specialises in on-line assessments, diagnostics and resources for Functional Skills and indeed, these days for GCSE maths and English too. He's been involved in educational technology for more than 25 years working for some of the biggest names in the sector including Espresso where in 2000 and as Marketing Director, he launched the first satellite delivered video based learning resource to the UK primary school market and SAM Learning which became a hugely successful e-learning company in the UK counting more than 3 in 5 UK secondary schools as active users of the on-line GCSE revision materials. He's from Durham, has a first degree in Maths, and this year joined the Ofqual panel as an external expert in on-line assessment.

#### **Eddie Wilde      OCR**

Eddie Wilde is currently the manager of the mathematics and technical subjects team at OCR having joined the mathematics team in 2000. For many years prior to joining OCR Eddie was a teacher and later an advisory teacher for maths in Yorkshire during which time he acquired significant experience as an examiner and as a CPD trainer for maths. He has 30 years of experience in curriculum development across a range of different qualifications including a number of re-developments of GCSE over recent years including some with innovative assessment models.

#### **Robert Wilne      NCETM**

Robert Wilne joined the NCETM as Director of Secondary in June 2014. He has taught mathematics in state and independent secondary schools (across Key Stages 3, 4 and 5) since 1996, and has also been a governor in two schools: Chair at Devonshire Hill Primary School in Tottenham, North London, for four years, and currently at The Royal Docks Community School in Newham, East London. Robert read Maths at Cambridge and graduated in 1995. He flirted briefly with the idea of being a theatre director, having spent probably as much time backstage in the student theatre as "front of house" in maths lectures. However, starving in a garret didn't really appeal as a career path, so he started teaching Maths in April 1996. He became Head of Department at Highgate School in September 2000, and over the next twelve years took on a range of project development and leadership roles in the school, becoming a Deputy Head in 2008. In January 2012 He was appointed to be the founding Headteacher of the London Academy of Excellence, the first sixth form to open as part of the "free school" programme. Having brought the vision-on-paper of LAE to thriving, flourishing, successful life in East London, he looked for the opportunity to share on a wider scale his commitment to improving young people's life choices through education, and through Maths in particular – an opportunity he is delighted that his current role with the NCETM is giving him.