

## Multiply Newsletter June 2023

Hello and welcome to the first newsletter from the Multiply Team at Wiltshire Council. We would like to share our latest information, courses, and events with you.



### What is Multiply?

Multiply is a new government funded programme to help adults improve their numeracy skills. If you're aged 19 and over and don't have maths GCSE at grade C (or equivalent), you can access free courses through Multiply to build your confidence with numbers and perhaps gain a qualification.

## Monthly Spotlight – What's on this Month

Each month, we will be shining a spotlight on some of our fantastic Multiply Providers, giving you details on what courses they are delivering and anything new they have coming up soon. Introducing this month's selection:



### **Family and Community Learning**

Wiltshire Council's Family and Community Learning Team provide a wide range of courses for adults. Under Multiply, they are offering frequent numeracy-based courses, but in June and July they are running some practical, advisory sessions that can help with navigating the cost-of-living crisis and hopefully save you some money along the way. These courses are:

- **Balance your Budget**
- **Shop for less**
- **Saving Energy**

For more information on these courses and book your place, please use the link [Upcoming Events – Work Wiltshire](https://www.workwiltshire.co.uk/family-and-community-learning/) or visit [www.workwiltshire.co.uk/family-and-community-learning/](https://www.workwiltshire.co.uk/family-and-community-learning/).



### **Prospect Training Services**

Prospect Training Services are offering **free** online short courses for you to complete at a time to suit you. The modules available include **money and calculations, column addition and subtraction** and **handling data** and are an excellent way to refresh your memory and brush up on basic maths subjects. You can complete as many as you want, and they can all be done in your own time.

To find out more and sign up to a course please use the link [Online Learning - Work Wiltshire](https://www.workwiltshire.co.uk/online-learning-work-wiltshire/)

## What else have we been up to?

The Multiply Team have been really busy over the last month getting the programme off the ground and promoting the provision we have. Here are a couple of things we've been up to:

### **Multiply**

#### **Multiply Events**



The 17<sup>th</sup> May was National Numeracy Day and the Multiply team held a stand in the Shires Shopping Centre, Trowbridge. They met members of the public to have a 'Number Natter' to discuss how they feel about maths and give information about Multiply's local offer.

Look out for more upcoming events, at [Upcoming Events – Work Wiltshire](https://www.workwiltshire.co.uk/upcoming-events-work-wiltshire/) including National Numeracy Week in November!

#### **Networking Breakfast**

On 8<sup>th</sup> June, we had our first Provider Networking Breakfast event, where we got all of our Wiltshire Multiply Providers in the same room to talk about the courses they are running and discuss how they are going so far. It was great to see everyone and hear lots of thought-provoking discussion. We are so lucky to be working with such a knowledgeable and enthusiastic group of people. We will be holding these meetings every quarter and of course, there will be more cake!



## How can you get Involved?

Did you know, **49%** of adults of working-age have the maths skills of a primary aged child?

Maths anxiety is one of the reasons why many people avoid revisiting their maths. They may shy away from talking about their maths skills due to a bad experience in school or feel that they are 'not a maths person'. If this is you, then you are definitely not alone.

Having confidence in your maths skills can help you in many practical ways, such as helping your child with their homework, managing your own personal finances, budgeting and boost your employment opportunities.

If you think you could benefit from upskilling in maths but don't know where to start, why not take the numeracy 'Challenge'. The Challenge is a short quiz that focuses on your maths confidence, look at your current skills and then identify where you might need to start on your learning journey.

Get started by visiting [www.nationalnumeracy.org.uk/challenge/wcaq](http://www.nationalnumeracy.org.uk/challenge/wcaq) or scan the QR code.



Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter.

For more information about Multiply please visit our website [www.workwiltshire.co.uk/multiply](http://www.workwiltshire.co.uk/multiply) or email us at [Multiply@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Multiply@wiltshire.gov.uk)

You can sign up to receive the newsletter on Work Wiltshire.

See you next month!

*The Multiply Team*

