

BOOK REVIEWS

Our reviewer is **DR ANNE DAVIS MSET QTLS**, who has worked as a sixth-form maths teacher and head of maths in south-east England. She is also a private tutor, teaching maths, chemistry and physics, specialising in the 16+ age group. She is a cycling and kayaking coach, with experience of coaching disabled athletes



COACHING FROM A TO Z AND BACK AGAIN

By Bob Thomson

Critical Publishing 2023

This book contains a lot of useful tips and ideas for great coaching conversations, arranged in alphabetical order of 52 short chapters.

It is written by a well-respected author and coach, with prior experience of management before entering academia.

The topics cover all the basics of coaching, including well-established practices and useful key ideas from published work across the field.

Each chapter is easy to read, with further suggestions of reading or reflective tasks to extend the concepts.

I feel that this would be a very good reference for any coach or educator.

It is well written and structured, with good links between the chapters, and it is packed with information and ideas.

I did find it was something I could not read a lot of in one sitting because I wanted to take in and reflect on what I had read, especially concerning the more thought-provoking topics.

This means it is not a quick read, despite the compact appearance, but it will be a valuable addition to my bookcase to dip into when required.

→ *InTuition* readers receive a 20% discount on this book with the code **FE2023** at criticalpublishing.com (valid until 31 December)

CONCEPTUAL MATHS

By Peter Mattock

Crown House 2023

I liked the idea behind this book as soon as it landed on my doorstep.

As a maths teacher, I am always looking for new ways to help my students learn, and regularly go back to the basic concepts to build up an understanding of the processes required.

The idea of teaching about the background concepts of maths, rather than just 'doing' maths, is the fundamental goal of this book.

It contains lots of explanations supported by established and sound models, and demonstrated with excellent examples.

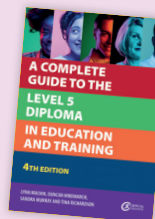
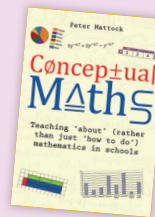
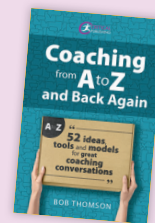
This book is big but well structured and organised into chapters based on the main areas of study.

It is clearly aimed at educators rather than students – but there is no reason why parents or older students could not benefit from it themselves.

It is aimed at all stages of education and would be a useful resource for any further education (FE) maths teacher – especially where working with learners who have struggled with maths GCSE or functional maths.

The author is an experienced teacher and presenter who is clearly passionate about education and the mastery of his subject. While this book has clear links to the author's previous publication, it is a very useful resource.

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A COMPLETE GUIDE TO THE LEVEL 5 DIPLOMA IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING

By Lynn Machin et al

Critical Publishing 2023

I reviewed the third edition of this book in 2020 and rated it as an excellent book. Like its predecessor, this edition doesn't disappoint.

It has updated policies and recommendations that reflect current legislation and views on best practice in the FE sector.

It feels a bit slimmed down compared to the previous edition, but there is no reduction in the standard of content.

The topics covered are linked to the 2022 ETF standards. Each chapter contains details examining the key areas of practice accompanied by highly relevant case studies for today's trainees, which also address common concerns and issues facing all educators.

There are tasks to check on understanding of these practices, which I thought were very good.

The different topics link up well to the DET courses, which will be very useful for trainees. The different routes that can lead to the DET qualification are well represented in the case studies and scenarios, and the background of the course and future prospects following qualification are also well explained.

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