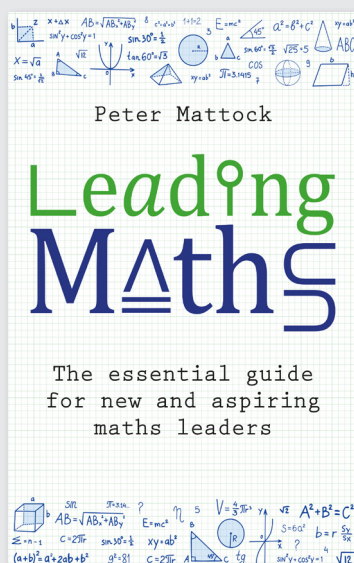


P R E S S R E L A S E

“Whether you are considering a role in maths leadership, a seasoned leader or looking to go further than leading your department, *Leading Maths* provides invaluable insight and advice...

A vital read for anyone in maths leadership.”

– Lisa Coe, former Trust-wide Primary Maths Lead



Leading Maths

The essential guide for new and aspiring maths leaders

By Peter Mattock

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Offers practical guidance and advice on how to approach maths leadership and explores the challenges and rewards that come with this unique role.

How to lead maths: Peter Mattock explores the challenges and rewards that come with this unique role

Mathematics is fundamental to many professions, especially those in the science, technology, and engineering industries. Yet, because maths is too often perceived as complex and difficult, many students discount careers in these industries.¹ Changing the perception and improving the teaching and learning of maths is therefore an incredibly important job, however, the current education landscape in the UK is making this increasingly difficult due to issues around funding shortages, recruitment struggles and a lack of work-life balance in most schools.²

Being in maths leadership at any school is extremely demanding and comes with pressures not experienced in many other subject areas. The relatively abstract nature of the subject content, combined with the contrasting societal and parental attitudes to mathematics, can complicate communication and stifle progress. Most pupils and parents will recognise the importance of maths, but many feel it's perfectly acceptable to be “no good” at it. Leading maths in schools is about managing these contradictions and getting the very best out of every teacher and pupil.

Many volumes have been written about leadership, both in general and specifically in education. What does appear to be lacking, however, is detailed advice and guidance on how to approach leadership in specific subject areas. This is what Peter Mattock addresses in his practical new book, *Leading Maths*. This book offers useful guidance and advice on how to approach maths leadership and explores the challenges and rewards that come with this unique role.

With the assistance of specific examples from fifteen years of his own maths leadership experience, Peter shares his top tips and tricks for current, new or aspiring maths leaders, starting with how to actually

1 L. Yeping & A.H. Schoenfeld, 'Problematising teaching and learning mathematics as “given” in STEM education', *International Journal of STEM Education*, vol. 6, no. 44, 2019, Available at: <https://stemeducationjournal.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s40594-019-0197-9>

2 'It's more than just pay': School teachers on why they are striking', *Schools Week*, 2023. Available at: <https://schoolsweek.co.uk/its-more-than-just-pay-school-teachers-on-why-they-are-striking/> Schools Week, 'It's more than just pay': School teachers on why they are striking', *Schools Week*, 2023. Available at: <https://schoolsweek.co.uk/its-more-than-just-pay-school-teachers-on-why-they-are-striking/>

P R E S S R E L E A S E

secure a position in maths leadership, and moving on to explore how to start making the most of the role and manage the day-to-day demands. Peter also examines the more long-term, strategic view of maths leadership, including how leaders can work with their teams to develop high-quality mathematics teaching and learning for all pupils.

Leading Maths covers day-to-day issues that arise when leading maths, in particular results and accountability, how to manage an inspection, developing improvement plans, managing difficult situations and the appraisal process, before touching on taking maths leadership beyond one specific school and into system leadership. It offers useful takeaways at the end of each chapter, with a summary of key points and advice.

In addition to Peter's insight, *Leading Maths* contains contributions from other experienced maths practitioners who examine specific approaches to leading maths across phases and in different settings. These include Becky Lawrence, Jemma Sherwood, Rhiannon Rainbow and Dave Tushingam.

An essential guide for current, new, or aspiring maths leaders.

"This book is packed full of helpful advice for a head of maths. Drawing extensively on the author's personal experience, *Leading Maths* provides guidance on the day-to-day operational aspects of the role, as well as the more strategic side of department leadership."

– Jo Morgan, Head of Maths, writer of resourceaholic.com and author of *A Compendium of Mathematical Methods*

About the author



Peter Mattock has been teaching and leading maths for over 15 years. He is a specialist leader of education (SLE) and an accredited secondary maths professional development lead who regularly presents at conferences across the country. Peter also develops teaching for mastery in the secondary school classroom, having been part of the first cohort of specialists trained in mastery approaches by the National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics (NCETM).

Articles and interviews available

Peter is available for interview, expert comment or by-lined articles on a range of topics, such as:

- How to prepare for a maths leadership position: tips and tricks for interviews, lesson observations, school tours, lesson and curriculum planning
- Getting stuck into your maths leadership position: time management, leadership style, behaviour and practice
- Day-to-day management in a maths leadership role: managing behaviour, covering absences, monitoring and admin
- Dealing with results: feedback and marking
- Leading maths beyond your school
- Adding to your team: appointing maths teachers and leadership roles
- Leading maths across a trust

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