

The Number Partners project provides weekly 1:2 or 1:1 support to targeted children aged 6 – 11 (Primary / Key Stage 1 & 2) using trained volunteers from Member Companies, Independents and Loughborough University Students Union Action Office (who have just won the Queens Award for their community volunteering).

Over the course of the 2016/17 academic year, 200 volunteers have been involved in the project, with the highest number of member company volunteers taking part since its inception in 2006. Our incredible team of trained volunteers have supported approximately 605 children in 40 schools, with some schools receiving support from both corporate and student volunteers.

This year has seen fabulous developments with the team approach to volunteering in schools. With thorough team training, in depth inductions and impeccable communication between colleagues, volunteers provide seamless support to pupils. They add value with their wealth of experience, give alternatives to prescriptive methods, bring humour and inspiration with their diverse personalities, outlook, backgrounds & culture, while ensuring that their engagement in Number Partners doesn't affect the productivity of their business.

Leicestershire Cares Number Partner volunteers make a huge difference to the lives of sometimes vulnerable children, developing self-esteem, changing attitudes, supporting pupil progress and raising aspirations. Thank you to everyone involved for putting smiles into sums!

Joanne Hudson

Number Partners & Membership Coordinator



From a company

"Seeing the confidence of the children increase during the time and watching them develop their knowledge has been a joy for all volunteers. Everyone has a great time, both children and volunteers, and we look forward to taking part again next year!"

From a volunteer

"Each time when you arrive, the children are so excited to see you, it makes you feel it is a worthwhile activity."

From a school

"The children who have taken part in the Number Partner sessions have grown in confidence and enjoy the sessions. They have all made good or better progress in maths. "

**Number Partners
2016/17**

From a pupil

"I love Number Partners because you don't feel afraid to answer a question, you don't feel afraid to speak out loud. I think Number Partners has made maths a lot more interesting and in a whole new level."

Assessment of the Pupil Progress

“The children thoroughly **enjoy** the Number Partners sessions and it definitely gives them increased **confidence** and an opportunity to develop **skills** or fill gaps in their current maths **knowledge.**”

“The sessions have **reinforced** some key number skills. It has been a **boost** in **self-esteem** for **Pupil Premium** children.”

“I feel that the benefits of Number Partners is beyond mere **improvement** in maths skills. The **nurture** aspect of Number Partners is very important to us in our school. It has been especially **valuable** for those children who do not have a parent proficient in English at home.”

Criteria for selection: Children are identified and targeted by specialist Maths Coordinators in school. The pupils selected are all lacking in ability & confidence and are at risk of making no or very little progress throughout the academic year, resulting in them not reaching the age related expectations for their year group.

- Coordinators felt that 98% of pupils had made progress due to direct support from a Number Partner volunteer.
- 95% pupils increased their self-esteem & self-confidence as a direct result of the sessions.
- 97% of the pupils felt that Number Partner volunteers had helped them with their progress.
- 60% of children made good progress and 28% made excellent progress during the year.
- 28% of the students were from City Schools and 72% from County Schools.
- 44% of the children were boys and 56% girls.
- 25% had Special Educational Needs.
- 77% of the students were White British.

“They have enjoyed learning and applying new skills through the maths games and this has given them the confidence to have a more positive attitude towards maths in class.”

Volunteers:

- 98% rated the project as excellent or good and 92% of volunteers would highly recommend the activity to their work colleagues.
- 100% felt they had developed professionally from Number Partners and the skills most commonly developed were coaching and mentoring, motivating others, listening and communication skills and self-confidence.

