



INVITATION TO BID FOR DELIVERY OF ADULT NUMERACY SKILLS THROUGH THE MULTIPLY PROGRAMME

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council are seeking to appoint partner organisations to work with us in delivery of innovative engagement activities and substantive learning opportunities to improve adult numeracy up to and including Level 2 provision. This will be funded through the Multiply programme, part of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

We are seeking projects for delivery up to 15th March 2025. Activity will be delivered across two financial years with an agreed financial allocation for each year, covering the periods 1st August 2023 and 31st March 2024 and 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025. Grants and spend must be fully defrayed within the agreed financial year to be eligible, with no roll over of unspent grants into the subsequent year permitted.

Introduction

The Government wants everyone to have the opportunity to learn and develop the essential skills that they need to succeed at any age. We know that numeracy is universally important for individuals' life chances, and for the United Kingdom's economy. Multiply aims to see meaningful participation that boosts people's ability to use maths in their daily life, at home and work – and enables adults to achieve formal qualifications that can open doors for them (such as into a job, progression in a job, or progression to further study).

Rotherham Council received initial grant funding for year 1 in December 2022 from the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA) to administer and develop Multiply in Phase 1 delivery across the area up to 31st March 2023. The Council is now seeking to fund (via sub-grants) year 2 and 3 activities and interventions through an open and competitive grant process.

1. Eligible Activity

1.1 Eligible activity must fall under one of the following interventions:

<u>Intervention</u>	
<u>1</u>	Numeracy activities, courses or provision developed in partnership with community organisations and other partners aimed at engaging the hardest to reach learners. Maths Skills for Life
<u>2</u>	Numeracy activities, courses or provision developed in partnership with community organisations and other partners aimed at engaging the hardest to reach learners. Preparation for work, disadvantaged learners.
<u>3</u>	Courses for parents wanting to increase their numeracy skills in order to help their children and help with their own progression.

All sub-grants which the Council will make will be subject to the **Multiply Funding and Performance Management Rules (FPMR)** published by South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA) (Version: 1.0 12/2022 for the 2022/23 Financial Year to the 2024/2025 Financial Year. Applicants must read the FPMR carefully. [Schedule 8 - Multiply Funding and Performance Management Rules V1 12.22.pdf](#)

1.2 Learners must be 19+ and not have achieved Grade C or equivalent in Maths at GCSE.

1.3 Learning can be delivered in two formats, with the expectation that ‘engaged learners’ will progress to Multiply ‘substantive’ provision.

Engagement	Less than two hours learning time. A short learning experience, activity, or ‘hook’ to encourage learners onto a longer course. This includes the promotion of Multiply courses. Targeted at those in the local area who would benefit from Multiply funded learning.
Substantive	Learning opportunity that is two hours or more and evidences a progression in learning. Learner skills/ knowledge improve during the course.

1.4 Interventions **must not displace, replace and / or duplicate any existing** adult numeracy provision, such as activity funded through the existing Adult Education Budget (AEB) statutory entitlement for maths qualifications or funding for any other projects.

1.5 Funding must not be used for **any activities** that are **not related** to the provision of **basic numeracy skills provision**; and/or any activities that the learner would otherwise be able to access free of charge.

- 1.6 Providers will be expected to consider the Public Sector Equalities Duty (PSED) in any provision they develop through Multiply, including but not limited to gender, age, disability, and race. This will also include promoting equality through their recruitment processes; offering information, advice, and guidance; ensuring that the structure and content of the activities delivered are suitable and appropriate; and ensuring that provision is accessible and flexible where necessary.

APPLICATION, FUNDING AND TIMESCALES

Funded projects and activities must be delivered by 15th March 2025. There is no commitment to funding beyond this date.

For any questions about the Multiply programme, then please contact the Multiply Team at multiply@rotherham.gov.uk

Please note: Any questions and the answers, would be shared with all applicants. If an applicant wants the Council to observe confidentiality because it wants to discuss something sensitive, it can say so when asking the question and this will be considered.

<u>Closing date for applications</u>
Thursday 20 th July, 2023
Return application to: multiply@rotherham.gov.uk

	Delivery End Date	Funding End Date
Year 2 (August 2023- March 2024)	15 th March 2024	31 st March 2024
Year 3 (April 2024 – March 2025)	15 th March 2025	31 st March 2025