



## Cheshire East Council News

As the Project Manager, I am pleased to welcome you to the third edition of our Multiply newsletter for Cheshire East.

In this edition, you'll find details on our upcoming courses scheduled for November and December. We also invite you to explore our 'Creative Costume Making' course, which is currently in progress.

Explore the highlights of 'Numeracy Confidence Week' from our pop up event at Crewe Lifestyle Centre.

Additionally, learn more about the advantages of the Multiply programme for employers in delivering engaging numeracy sessions.

We take great pride in the achievements of all our learners. In our 'Success Stories' section, read about Sarah's journey after completing the 'Pizza & Programming' course.

Finally Springboard have been busy with various events and lots of additional upcoming courses.



Jane Carroll  
Multiply Project Manager  
Cheshire East Council

## Upcoming Courses

### Starting in November

- Excel to Excel at Springboard, Congleton – Mondays (ongoing)
- Introduction to Functional Skills Maths at Springboard, Congleton – (ongoing)
- Sew Much Fun: Machine Mastery at Sandbach Art Room, Sandbach - Tuesday, 19th November (3 hour course)
- Sew Much Fun: Pattern Perfection at Sandbach Art Room, Sandbach - Tuesday, 26th November (3 hour course)
- Advent Crown at Reaseheath College – Saturday, 30th November (3 hour course)

### Starting in December

- Christmas Cake Decorating at Richmond Village, Nantwich – Monday, 2nd December (3 hour course)
- Sew Much Fun: Machine Mastery at Sandbach Art Room, Sandbach - Tuesday, 3rd December (3 hour course)
- Sew Much Fun: Pattern Perfection at Sandbach Art Room, Sandbach - Tuesday, 10th December (3 hour course)

To find out about any additional planned courses, please visit: [Multiply Courses - Reaseheath College](#)



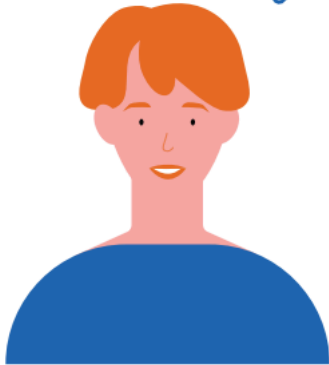
'Creative Costume Making' - Sew Good!

We've seen some amazing creativity on the Creative Costume making course. It was brilliant to hear about the projects the learners have been planning and making so far.... pyjamas, a Christmas stocking, an apron, sewing bag and a 60's style dress!

This course has given learners the opportunity to unbox their sewing machines, and build their confidence in pattern terminology and following a pattern.

Click the image above to watch a short video of 'Creative Costume Making'.

**"It's given me the confidence to know I could buy a pattern and follow it."**



**"I've learnt how to extend a pattern and the terminology on patterns."**



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## **Numeracy Confidence Week (4th-8th November)**

### **Why does number confidence matter?**

Feeling confident with numbers makes it easier to build number skills. And building number skills helps us make good decisions in life, at home and at work. That's why Number Confidence Week is all about taking that first step...building confidence. It can be life-changing!

### **Pop up event at Crewe Lifestyle Centre**

We had an amazing time last week at Crewe Lifestyle Centre, as part of National Numeracy's 'Number Confidence Week'. We got to chat with so many people about their feelings on "numeracy" and "maths" - and let's just say, the emoji reactions were all over the place! 🤔👀😊



## Employer Update

### Benefits to your business

Multiply courses can:

- increase employee confidence with numbers and encourage them to use their numeracy skills at work
- reduce numeracy related mistakes at work, and boost productivity, increase profits and improve employee retention
- motivate employees to pursue different forms of training that may benefit the business in the future

### Cost

All courses and offers included in the scheme are fully funded by the government.

Courses can be delivered flexibly to limit pressures on any existing commitments you may have as an employer.

### **Your responsibilities**

Multiply does not require a work placement and you do not need to contribute to the training.

*Please note - employees do not have to live in Cheshire East to be eligible for the course, as long as the employer is based in Cheshire East.*



**Access FREE Multiply training  
and develop your numeracy  
skills for the workplace**

**Innovative numeracy courses  
tailored to specific numeracy  
skills required in the workplace**

**SKILLS  
FOR LIFE  
MULTIPLY**

\*Eligibility: Business located in Cheshire East, aged 19 and over.

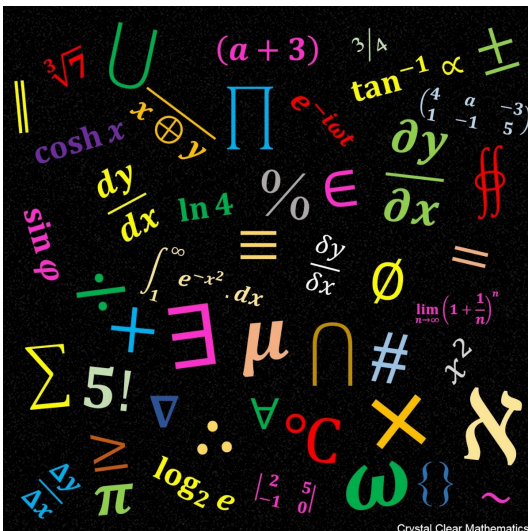
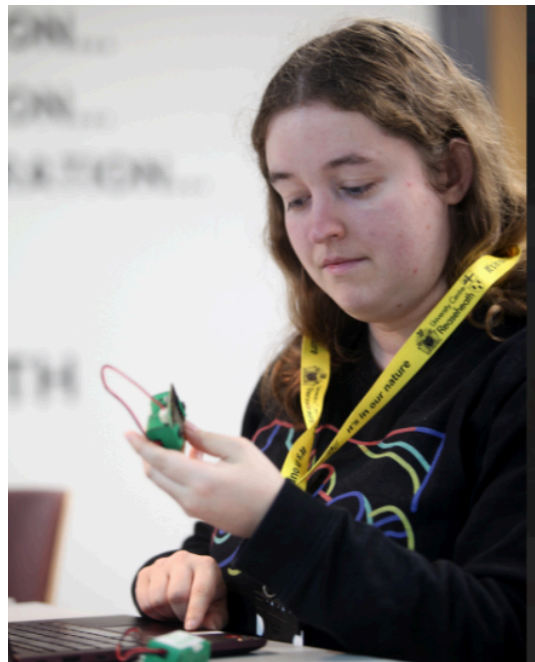
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## Success Story

Sarah completed our 'Pizza & Programming' course in June 2024. She is now enrolled on 'Access to HE' at Reaseheath College.



"I'm very grateful to Victoria and the college for the opportunity to do the Pizza and Programming course. I had been out of education for 10 years, was stuck in a low paid job and had lost confidence in my ability to learn. I have always struggled with maths but the Multiply course gave me some confidence back and with Victoria's encouragement I applied to study an Access to HE course. I am now studying the access course with plans to start a degree in 2025. I wouldn't have had the confidence to do this without the Pizza and Programming course."



## Learner Progression

In the 2023/24 financial year, 50% of learners (who joined Multiply courses designed to help them progress onto Function Skills) enrolled on one of our evening courses - spanning both Level 1 and Level 2.

[Learn more about our Functional Skills courses here.](#)

## Springboard News



## Multiply 'Introduction to Functional Skills Maths'

This term, Springboard has boosted its number of October Functional Skills Maths enrolments by welcoming a new cohort of Multiply learners.

Maths tutor, Linda, says, "Multiply is a fantastic way of introducing learners to Functional Skills maths. As well as engaging in activities that underpin the mathematical skills and understanding required to progress onto Functional Skills Maths, our classes have a strong social element. We focus on working together and team building. As well as boosting learners' confidence we develop employability skills and techniques that will support their onward journey".

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## Multiply 'Welcoming New Learners at the Macclesfield Jobs Fair (8th October)'

Our Springboard team were extremely busy at the Multiply stand at the recent Macclesfield Jobs Fair (organised by the DWP and Cheshire East). "This was a great opportunity to engage with potential learners and discuss the merits of boosting and developing numeracy levels. There was lots to talk about on behalf of ourselves and our fellow delivery partner Reaseheath: encouraging participation in lifelong learning with courses such as Beginners Sewing and Floristry; boosting employability skills through our digital skills maths course 'Excel to Excel' and discussing accessing Functional Skills maths with our introductory maths courses."

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## Multiply 'Developing Numeracy Skills through Sewing'



There is still time to book onto a Springboard Beginners Sewing course! Springboard has continued to attract a diverse range of learners with its Multiply Beginners Sewing Course. Tutor, Emma says, "It's been wonderful to teach maths in a craft-based, social setting. What learners have made, created and taken away from the course has far exceeded their expectations – which has been great. This term we have welcomed a retiree who is now moving onto Functional Skills maths, a businesswoman who has wanted to hone her numeracy skills, and a group of parents that are working on developing their confidence after taking time out with small children. We're also very excited to take our sewing course out into the community and deliver it to groups in Crewe next term."

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## 6 WEEK CHRISTMAS SEWING COURSE

Always wanted to learn to  
sew?

Start your sewing journey  
right now with our free  
Learn To Sew course. Aimed  
at complete beginners.

This course is FREE and  
available exclusively to  
Cheshire East residents aged  
19+ who are currently  
working below GCSE C/4 in  
Maths.



[www.springboard.me.uk](http://www.springboard.me.uk)



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[info@springboard.me.uk](mailto:info@springboard.me.uk)



6 x Fridays  
(10am to 12.30pm)

Congleton

8th November

15th November

22nd November

29th November

6th December

13th December



Funded by  
UK Government

### Get in touch

- Reaseheath: [www.reaseheath.ac.uk](http://www.reaseheath.ac.uk) / 01270 625131  
/ [multiply.enquiries@reaseheath.ac.uk](mailto:multiply.enquiries@reaseheath.ac.uk)
- Springboard: [www.springboard.me.uk](http://www.springboard.me.uk) / 01260 290 682 / [info@springboard.me.uk](mailto:info@springboard.me.uk)

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