

PROJECT MATHS

Information Evening
30th Sept 2013



Background to the introduction of Project Maths

“Just not good at maths”

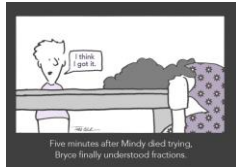
- Poor self esteem
- No confidence
- This **attitude** results in students not even trying to understand certain topics



Background to the introduction of Project Maths

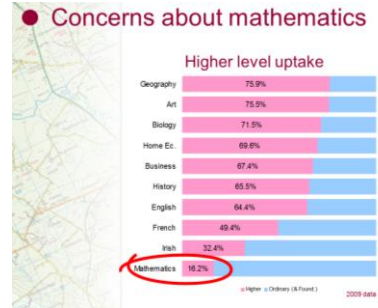
“Can’t do maths – Won’t do maths!”

- This impacts their **motivation and retention**.
- Hard for students to see the **connection** between their lives and maths



National concerns with Maths

Concerns about mathematics



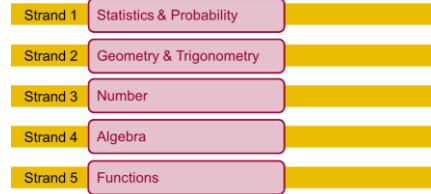
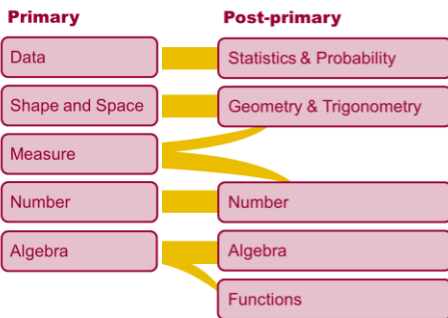
THE NEW SYLLABUS

Project Maths

Continuity



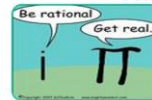
Primary School Curriculum



WHAT DO WE WANT FOR OUR STUDENTS?



The destination...



Value maths
Conceptual Understanding
Basic Skills
Broad Range of Approaches



How does Project Maths differ from 'Maths'?

1. A change in teaching **methodologies**
2. The layout of the **exam** paper
3. A change in the type of **skills** required by the student

New teaching methodologies

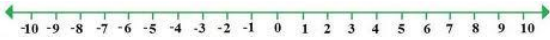
- **Use of ICT in the classroom**
 - Video clips
 - Powerpoints
 - Geogebra
- **"Hands-on" activities with concrete materials**
 - Student discovery through activities
 - Pair work/ group work
- Mathematical games/Quizzes
- Using real data to understand statistics

Problem Solving Strategies

- How can you relate negative numbers to real life?

Temperature!

Strategy: use a number line



Problem Solving Strategies

Saoirse thinks of a number and divides it by 2 and adds 5 to her answer. The result is 9.

$$\begin{aligned} &9 \\ &-5 \\ &= 4 \\ &\times 2 \\ &= 8 \end{aligned}$$

Check!

$$8 \div 2 = 4 + 5 = 9$$

Algebra

$$\frac{x}{2} + 5 = 9$$

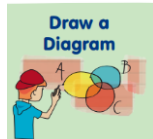
Work Backwards



Trial and Improvement

Problem Solving Strategies

- Find the surface area of a cube with side 3cm
<http://www.projectmaths.ie/students/strand3/IC/cube.html>
- One square $3 \times 3 = 9$
- Six squares $9 \times 6 = 36$



Your role

- Encourage your child
- Instil confidence
- Relate maths problems (tasks) to real life situations
- Play games involving numbers e.g. playing cards
- And most importantly encourage a positive approach to maths!

