



Problem-Solving Schools Self-Evaluation

This self-evaluation form takes each of the statements in our Charter and invites you to reflect on how you currently promote mathematical problem solving in your school.

We hope this printable version will support discussions with your colleagues before you complete the online self-evaluation. Please note that the online version of the Charter <https://nrich.maths.org/charter> includes links which might inform your discussions.

Values and ethos

In our setting, it is evident to our students that...

	Needs developing	Currently developing	Currently embedding
Mathematical ability is not fixed: everyone can learn and make progress	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Problem solving often involves taking wrong turns and making mistakes: every learner has the right to struggle and the right to enjoy success	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Everyone should have the opportunity to develop the skills and attitudes necessary to become confident problem solvers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Problem solving can motivate learners to learn new mathematics, apply previous learning and make mathematical connections	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Leadership and professional development

In our setting...

	Needs developing	Currently developing	Currently embedding
Our staff promote positive attitudes towards problem solving	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Time is set aside to discuss problem solving in our meetings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Our displays, newsletters, website, and social media content celebrate problem solving for all	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Our monitoring system ensures that priority is given to problem solving and mathematical thinking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We engage with printed, online and face-to-face professional development opportunities offered by subject organisations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Curriculum, pedagogy and assessment

In our setting...

	Needs developing	Currently developing	Currently embedding
We regularly embed non-standard problem-solving opportunities in our maths curriculum for all	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We ensure that problems, and classroom support, offer opportunities for all to experience both struggle and success	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We allocate time to developing key mathematical thinking skills and positive attitudes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We include non-standard problems in our internal/formative assessments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We liaise with other subjects so that meaningful cross-curricular links can be made	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Classroom culture

In our setting...

	Needs developing	Currently developing	Currently embedding
We create a safe environment in which learners explore, take risks, and appreciate the value of learning from their mistakes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We celebrate multiple approaches to solving problems and discuss the merits of the different strategies offered	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We provide frequent opportunities for individual and collaborative problem solving, where learners are given both thinking time and opportunities to share ideas and insights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We celebrate the mathematical thinking of every learner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Problem solving beyond the classroom/school

In our setting...

	Needs developing	Currently developing	Currently embedding
We offer school maths club(s) and promote high-quality maths books, ideally stocked by the school library	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We encourage learners to take advantage of printed, online and off-site mathematical enrichment opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We support parents and carers to engage with problem solving through family homework and in-school events, while recognising that not every adult has had a positive experience of maths	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We encourage learners to appreciate, and learn more about, the achievements of a diverse range of mathematicians	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>