“Refresh Your Maths”
Peer mentoring and student-created online resources to improve students’ numerical reasoning skills

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Background to the scheme

- Existing university infrastructure
- Major part of many graduate recruitment processes
- Major cause of worry and anxiety
- Delicate but effective response needed
How the scheme works
• Pairs of mentors teach small groups of students

• 2 types of sessions – Refresher sessions and Numerical Online Test session

• Go through basic mathematics, examples and advice for taking tests.

• Since last year:
  • More sessions, including Penryn campus
  • New mentors and training programme
  • New uniform session plans and resources
Online resources

• The Refresh Your Maths ELE Page: http://vle.exeter.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=6102

• Videos – external and by mentors

• Help sheets

• Quizzes

• Resources
Online Resource Examples
Impact and initial findings

- Around 125 participants over the year
- Mix of subjects and year groups
- Highly positive feedback from participants
- Demographic engagement
Lessons learnt and future developments

• The sessions succeeded in improving students confidence in Numerical online tests

• New uniform structure across all sessions introduced this year

• Students wanted more time to do examples, and practice of doing tests

• The introduction of a new type of session to address this
Benefits of being a mentor

- Increased confidence
- Ability to think on my feet
- Communication
- Time management
- Numerical skills
- Ability to help other students
- Flexible working
- Work rota structured around our timetables
- Improve CV
- Having our say in the organization of the project
Views of other mentors
Quotes from mentors

• It has been a really positive experience for me

• I have had the opportunity to earn money doing a job that I enjoy and fits in perfectly around my busy degree course!

• It has given me experience in planning and delivering sessions that cater to a variety of needs

• I have gained a lot of confidence in delivering presentations

• It has been really rewarding to use my maths skills in a way that will benefit others
Closing reflections

• Partnership essential for effective development of project
• Results prove scheme successful so far
• Great benefits and skills development for students involved in programme
Thank you for listening

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