# SEND and Maths Working Group

Helen Thouless, Esmeralda Zerafa & Fiona Richards

## Long-term Aims

To promote connections between researchers

Raise awareness of topic

Bridging the gap between theory and practice

Bridge gap between fields of mathematics education, psychology and special education









### Introductions

#### **Helen Thouless**

- Number patterns with children with language delays
- Place value understanding of children with dyslexia
  - Counting
  - Teaching place value through Counting Collections
- Introducing pattern to nursery children with autism
- Co-editing book on special education and mathematics with Yan Ping Xin and Ron Tzur



### Introductions

#### Esmeralda Zerafa

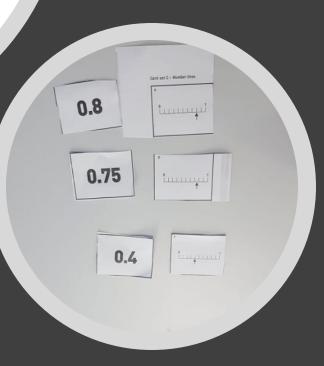
- Research carried out in Malta
- Intervention strategies for children with dyscalculia
- Investigating the profiles of both children with MLD only and both MLD and RD
- Intervention strategies for children with MLD a pedagogical model developed based on Vygotsky's theories (More Knowledgeable Other Driven Strategies, Learner-Driven Strategies and Tools-Assisted Strategies.



This meter counts the people going into a football stand:

After one more person has gone in,





### Introductions

#### **Fiona Richards**

- Teaching secondary maths in a small rural school with a history of underperformance and a higher than average number of SEND students
- PhD student. My research project is working with a group of 11-12 yearolds learning about place value

Click to add text

## Why did you join this group?

## What do you understand by the term SEND?

What differences are there between mathematics learning difficulty and mathematics learning disabilities?

- Does this make a difference to our practice?
- If so, how?

## What is missing in the field?

## Where should we go with this working group?

h.thouless@ucl.ac.uk

- Mathematics Learning Difficulties
  - Umbrella term includes SEMH, autism, Down Syndrome, dyscalculia, etc.
- Outcome: Supporting class teachers
  - Supporting maths knowledge of teachers/ support staff will improve confidence
- Do some research: Find out what teachers and support staff say they actually need.
- Action: Informally ask teachers and support staff what they wish they knew about teaching maths to children with maths learning difficulties. Informal Needs Analysis
- Dissemination:
  - Communicate with DfE about findings
  - Raise the profile of mathematics learning difficulties
  - Culture of its ok not to be good at maths is harmful

