

Motivational Maths receives project funding from the WYLLN

The WYLLN Motivational Maths project, led by Leeds Metropolitan University, is developing open access maths materials for construction. Using web technology, mathematics is set and contextualised in construction environments. The features, activities, plant and equipment makes construction sites interesting environments and ideal places for exploring applied maths. Work on similar projects has found that the web and Flash technology can be used to make subjects more real and interesting.

Using totally spherical images, students can look around and explore construction sites. The online navigation tools allow users to open up real maths problems within the construction sites. Video, audio and animation are used to aid understanding of the topic and the problem. Examples of the maths tools can be found in the 'Classroom' at the following site: <http://www.leedsmet.ac.uk/teaching/vsite>

By providing a broad range of teaching aids, resources, individual study tasks and group activities, the project will create an assortment of materials which has the greatest potential to engage students. The scenario or case study materials will require students to undertake active investigations into both open and closed questions. Tools will be designed as teaching aids and as more independent learning activities, where the teacher's role becomes more supportive.

Initially, the project will set the teaching and learning tools in line with the new Level 3 Construction and Built Environment Diploma, Level 4 construction courses and Level 5 Foundation degrees curricula. The maths materials will be designed so that they are useful for most construction courses.

Through the development of ICT and web learning tools the theories, principles and concepts of mathematics can be connected to real construction and engineering scenarios, making maths functional. By connecting to real world problems, it is expected that the online multimedia and blended resources will create more meaningful mathematics. The aim is to develop tools which are used and engage a wider student audience, capturing and sustaining the interests of learners.

Post development, feedback and evaluation will be sought on the use of the tools and the level of student interest and engagement generated. A deeper understanding of how to integrate e-tools into the new diploma and foundation syllabi will be developed. Through an open access e-learning environment and downloadable printable resources the web tools will be available for use by the widest possible audience. If you wish to be made aware of the developments or be involved in the project please contact:

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Current partners include:

**Leeds College of Building, Bradford College. Kirklees College . Pro Skills ,
Carlton Bolling College and Morely High School**