

Virtualmaths online resources

Enhancing the learning experience

Virtualmaths

www.virtualmaths.org

The WYLLN Motivational Maths project, led by Leeds Metropolitan University, is developing open access maths materials. Using web technology, mathematics is set and contextualised in construction environments. The activities, plant and equipment within construction sites are ideal for exploring applied maths.



Online navigation tools allow users to open real maths problems within panoramic images of construction sites. Flash animation and video are used to aid understanding of the topic.



By providing a broad range of teaching aids, resources, individual study tasks and group activities the project will create an assortment of materials which have the greatest potential to engage students.

Initially the project will set the teaching and learning tools in line with the new 14-19 Construction and Built Environment Diploma, Level 4 construction courses and Level 5 Foundation degrees curricula. The maths materials will be designed so that they complement 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, 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 interest of learners. Some resources are also generic, for use in many aspects of maths. All resources are free to download and share.

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 14-19 Diploma and foundation syllabi will be developed. Through an open access e-learning environment and downloadable printable resources the web tools will be available to the widest possible audience.

Current partners include:

Leeds College of Building, Bradford College, Kirklees College, Carlton Bolling College, Wakefield College, Morley High School and Pro Skills.

If you wish to be made aware of developments or be involved in the project, please contact:

Chris Gorse c.gorse@leedsmet.ac.uk
Ian Dickinson i.dickinson@leedsmet.ac.uk

