

Creating Powerful learners of mathematics and numeracy

PMA POWERFUL LEARNERS MATHEMATICS & NUMERACY CHALLENGE

DEPT SCHOOL INFORMATION BOOKLET 2023

Mathematics is the music of reason.

Mathematics is
the most
beautiful
and most
powerful
creation of
the human spirit.

-Stefan Banach

KEY STEPS TO
GETTING
STARTED WITH
THE CHALLENGE

Enrol your site using the

-James Joseph Sylvester

registration form (page 15)

Read, share, explore the information booklet

Start your investigation!

ACCESS ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO SUPPORT YOUR INVOLVEMENT

- SAMPLE ENTRY DISPLAY
- SAMPLE ENTRY DIGITAL COLLECTION
- CHALLENGE MENTOR (ONLINE/FACE TO FACE)

Email primarymaths@bigpond.com for more info

WHAT'S THE CHALLENGE ABOUT

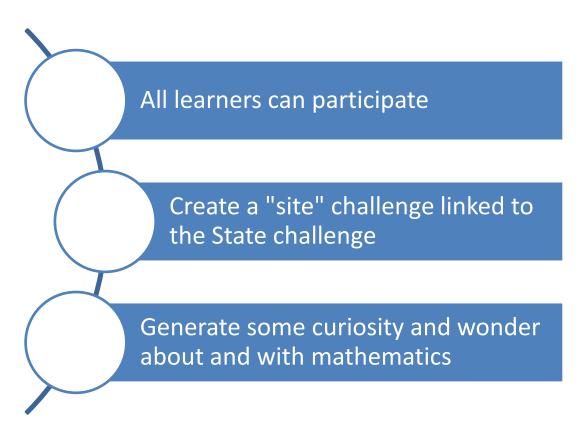
This Challenge is offered to you through a partnership between the Department for Education and PMA.

In 2023 the Department's target is <u>for at least one entry from every site</u> statewide and this booklet is designed to help you get started in meeting this target!

The Challenge is now in its twenty ninth year and continues to go from strength to strength. In 2022, we were very pleased to see so many successful entries and to hear the amazing feedback about the positive impact the Challenge had on the dispositions and learning of the children and educators who became involved.

The aims of the PMA Powerful Learners Mathematics and Numeracy Challenge are:

- To promote mathematics in school and preschool communities around South Australia
- To further develop students appreciation of the scope of mathematics and their creative and critical thinking skills
- To promote the goals and challenges of the Department's numeracy initiatives





2023 STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

In 2023, we are pleased to announce that the Department for Education are again key partners in the Challenge.

They have provided support which allows each site in the Department to participate- so all you need is your energy, enthusiasm and commitment!

We are also very pleased to have a range of other Corporate Partners who are providing prizes for Educators and Learners. We thank the following companies for their support and ask you to thank them with your patronage.

Toys2learn
Educational Resources.
511 Portrush Road
GLENUNGA SA 5064
www.toys2learn.com.au



ENTRIES CLOSE END OF
WEEK ONE, TERM FOUR
-Thursday 19th October, 12noon

This information booklet is designed to assist children, students and teachers in preparing entries. Permission is granted to copy this document as required.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE CHALLENGE:

GETTING YOUR LEARNERS INVOLVED!

Choose an option

1, 2 or 3

Choose a year level

Choose a category

Start anytime you like ENTRIES DUE
Thursday 19th October (Week 1, Term 4)



CHOOSE AN OPTION

Option One

• Exploring your own mathematical investigation

Option Two

• Exploring a "Set" mathematical investigation

Option Three

 Exploring a "Set" Financial Capability investigation

CHOOSE A YEAR LEVEL

R,1,2,3,4,5,6,7

Depending on numbers, "Composite groups" will be judged in a similar category or they will be placed into a group with the higher year level, eg: a group of Year 2/3 students would either be placed in Yr 2/3 category if it is available or be entered in the Yr.3 category, (unless there are less than 5 students at the older year level)

** Preschool and Birth to 3 details are provided in a separate booklet - contact primarymaths@bigpond.com

CHOOSE A CATEGORY

Individual
Small Groups (up to six learners)
Class Groups
Learners with Special Needs / Disabilities
IELC / EALD Learners

Small group and class group entries need to be collaborative efforts. Rather than a collection of individual pieces of work, individuals or groups may investigate aspects of an issue / topic and bring them together to draw conclusions.

** Learners with special needs details, refer to page 13

CELEBRATING YOUR SUCCESS!

Thanks to the generosity of our Challenge Partners, PMA is pleased to be able to provide the following acknowledgements to the participating learners and educators.

All learner and educator participants will be awarded certificates.

> <u>Certificate of Participation</u> is provided for all learners participating in the Challenge.

An original certificate for all site-based entries will be sent to sites after you have enrolled for the Challenge. Please use this to photocopy one for each site-based participant.

- >Certificate of Achievement to all learners whose work is sent in for State Judging.
- > Highly Commended Certificate and Medal to learners whose work has been highly commended by judges in each category
- ><u>State Winner Certificate and Award</u> to learner winners in each category at State level. State winners also receive a small gift and trophy to acknowledge their success.

Highly Commended and State winners will also be invited to attend the formal presentation on the 10^{th} November to accept their awards from the Minister

P.M.A. reserves the right not to award in any category on the advice of the judging panel.



FOR EDUCATORS - GET INVOLVED YOURSELF!

In 2023, there are five sections in the Educator Challenge entry.

You can choose one of two communication mediums. You can produce a short video or write an article (between 1000-1500 words) - whichever format allows you to reflect on your learning and teaching practice most effectively!

You could choose to think and reflect on:

- how you initiated and then supported your learners' involvement in the Mathematics Challenge. You may wish to include information about the process you used to design the learning, the provocation you used, your assessment design, the highlights of your intentional actions as an educator, how you used learners as resources for and with each other, how you differentiated the learning, your personal reflections on how you grew as a mathematics educator through this process and future directions for both you and the children

OR

- how you have been exploring the relationship between the Department's new "Four Areas of Impact" from the new Strategy and their impact on your mathematics learning and teaching This could include reflecting on what you have explored and trialled in relation to a particular Area of Impact in Mathematics and your thinking about what it will mean for your future practices in the learning and teaching of Mathematics

OR

- how you have been exploring and implementing teaching the "Financial Literacy" component of the Australian Curriculum This could include examples of where and how you have intentionally taught the "standards" from the National Consumer and Financial Literacy Framework, or how you have used or embedded other financial literacy resources into your practices or how you have started to explore the implications of the new "Financial Capability Strategy" OR
- how you have been using research to inform your practice. This could include one
 of the following research areas:
 - o Developing conceptual understanding in Mathematics
 - Assessment Design in Mathematics
 - o Supporting gifted and talented learners in Mathematics
 - o Putting the M in STEM
 - Metacognition in Mathematics
 - The role of mindset in Mathematics
 - o The role of technology in the learning and teaching of mathematics

We would be looking for you to tell us your story about what research you have considered (remember critical educators always seek out contrasting research to validate and compare views) and how this has informed your actions in the classroom. We would then love to know what has changed for your learners and what your future plans are!

In all four areas, Judges will be looking for evidence of you as a reflective practitioner Join Ninetta, Belinda, Katrice, Hayley, Vicki and Claire - six of the twelve educators recognised for their efforts by PMA and Credit Union SA in the last few years!



(please attach an Educator Entry form to your entry, page 16)

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

LEARNERS OPTION ONE: EXPLORING YOUR OWN MATHEMATICAL INVESTIGATION

Topics for Investigation

This section of the Mathematics Challenge is about the everyday learning and teaching children and young people experience in the learning setting. Entries could include ongoing learning conversations / investigations, children / student reports on mathematical learning or a big book of learners demonstrating their mathematical thinking.

Learners may choose any area of interest to investigate as long as the links with the mathematics are obvious.

Investigations could start from a particular context based on a site, learning setting or individual issue or interest. The key is that mathematics is a central focus in resolving a problem, situation or challenge or developing the interest further.

For example you could use one of the Australian or global "years/decades" as a foci. The current ones are listed below for your info, and further information can be found by entering these titles into a search engine

- Chinese Year of the Rabbit
- Information about the United Nations Observances listed below can be found at http://www.un.org/en/sections/observances/united-nations-observances/
 - o International Year of Dialogue as a Guarantee of Peace
 - o International Year of Millet
 - United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing
 - United Nations Decade for family farming
 - Nelson Mandela Decade of Peace
 - o International Decade of Indigenous Languages (2022-2032)
 - Second Decade of Action for Road Safety (2021-2030)
 - o International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development"
 - United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025)

They also have a list of international days and weeks which might provide some connections points for your exploration

https://www.un.org/en/observances/international-days-and-weeks

Each term also has a range of activities/foci weeks which might be able to be used. Check out the details at https://info.australia.gov.au/about-australia/special-dates-and-events

There are also specific events related to Mathematics:

- International Day of Mathematics, Tuesday 14th March https://www.idm314.org/ The theme for 2023 is "Mathematics for Everyone". (don't confuse this with World Maths Day, which is run by a commercial organisation designed to get children using their online games!)
- > National Numeracy and Literacy Week, Aug 29th to Sept 4th link will be live later this term
- > National Science Week http://www.scienceweek.net.au/ 12-20th August

There are also special mathematical days in the year that could provide a focus

- National Pi Day March 14th
- Florence Nightingale's Birthday (the first queen of data displays!) born 12th May, 1820
- > First woman to receive a Fields Medal (International Medal for Outstanding Discoveries in Mathematics)
 - Maryam Mirzakhani, Born 12th May 1977, Died 14th July 2017

There may also be state and local issues you wish to focus on, for example:

- Environmental issues e.g climate change. water salinity, greenhouse gases, global warming, river murray water management, pollution, management of electricity, extinction of animals, managing bushfires
- Building of significant infrastructures such as the new road systems, new children's hospital...
- Designing the learning environment for your learning space
- Planning a holiday how you do save and budget for a holiday, how much do you need to earn to be able to go on different kinds of holidays, on that salary how long would you need to save for to achieve your holiday goal
- Managing the school canteen
- Class budgets
- Energy alternatives
- Keeping a class pet
- Redesigning an area of your school
- Play areas
- Fitness circuits
- Healthy Food
- Travelling to other countries
- Class/School Newspaper
- Gardening
- Planning lunchtime activities
- Planning, organising a fundraiser

Alternatively investigations could begin from a mathematical idea or from a particular aspect of the Australian Curriculum eq:

- Patterns
- Fermi problems
- Probability -trialling & predicting a chance event
- Tessellations
- Polyominoes, pentominoes
- Design & construct a measuring device
- Exploring the data collection and use process
- Exploring location tools
- Exploring mathematical modelling

Two other resources that could help you in selecting an investigation focus:

- Collation of Set Investigations from 2010-2020 This is a collection of all the Set
 Investigations that have been used as Challenges in the past and these provide a great starting
 point for helping you think about what you and your learners could investigate.
- List of Investigation Topics from previous entries. This is a list of all the different "questions" that children have used as the entry point for their investigation

Both these resources are accessible from the PMA office at <u>primarymaths@bigpond.com</u> or on the "Challenge" page of our website https://www.primarymathematicssa.com/pmachallenge

It is also important to consider how technology will enhance your learner's mathematical investigations? School Educators are encouraged to reflect on the ICT Capability/Digital Literacy Learning Continuum Description for this General Capability in the Australian Curriculum as a way of developing the investigations and providing learning opportunities. Or you could check out the Digital Technologies curriculum to see what might be relevant at your year level. Lots of the "coding" activities provide a fantastic context for investigating mathematics concepts in a challenging way. (check out more information at the Digital Technologies support website at: https://www.digitaltechnologieshub.edu.au/)

Learners are able to work on their investigation anytime <u>between now and the end of Week 1, Term 4. (entries due 19/10, 12noon)</u> Alternatively, they may like to write up and present an investigation they have completed anytime since the beginning of this year.

LEARNERS OPTION 2/3: EXPLORING A SET MATHEMATICAL INVESTIGATION

In this section of the Challenge, the topic for the investigation is provided FOR you. Participants in this section of the Challenge will be sent this year's investigations on request after your site entry form has been submitted (form on page 15), and will then have until the Challenge closing date to complete the investigation, present their findings and submit their entries.

In 2023, a variety of Set Mathematical Investigations will be released. Our release schedule is below:

Term Three, Week one- "Set Investigations 2023" / Financial Capability Investigations Term Three, Week 6 - "Last Chances" Investigations Booklet

Alternatively in 2023, you again also have the option of choosing one of our previous Set Investigations and entering it in the "Retro Set Investigation" section

PRESENTING YOUR INVESTIGATIONS IN OPTION ONE, TWO OR THREE

In all options of the Challenge, the learners should make the decision on how their investigation is presented.

Suggested Presentation Formats

Investigations may be presented in any of the following ways or as a combination of ways.

- Written
 eg: Essays, scripts, stories, diaries, booklets (text with illustrations or newspaper format), big book, collection of poems/ letters.
- Posters
- Videos
- Models May accompany written reports. Models must be sturdy!
- Computer/Web Based Most software can be accepted, but if you are concerned that the software/apps your learner may be choosing is not a common one, please check with our office. The entry needs to be able to be run on standard equipment eg: standard Mac or PC without specialist software. Note: Please test your technology before forwarding it/details to the State Challenge

All entries submitted to the Challenge <u>MUST</u> be accompanied by a completed Learner Entry Form (page 19/20 in this booklet).

Please note: the Educators Context page is a really important one. It helps the "judges" really get a sense of your learners and where they are at mathematically, so thanks for taking the time to complete it!

All entries may be kept (or copied) by PMA for promotional purposes and then returned to sites at a negotiated time.

"JUDGING" YOUR INVESTIGATIONS

"Judging"

"Judging" will occur at the end of week one in term four and the statewide judging panel will be comprised of representatives from sectors and educational roles. The focus is on celebrating the mathematical thinking of learners and to provide acknowledgement of their efforts.

"Judging" Criteria (example judging sheet on page 17/18 for your info ONLY)

(1) Mathematical Content and Processes - 50%

- The judges are looking for evidence of clear understanding of mathematical concepts along with mathematical thinking skills (proficiency strands) including; theorising, estimating, justifying, generalising, comparing, proving, concluding...
- it is also important that the mathematics presented in the investigation is congruent with the mathematics expected at that year level within the Australian Curriculum/EYLF. For example ACM states that data displays presented using technology are expected from early years upwards. It is also important to consider what types of data displays are expected at each year level eg: bar and column graphs are beginning data displays and may not be the appropriate choice (depending on the type of data) for learners in the later years

KEY REFLECTION POINT: Can the judges clearly see which mathematics (Content and Proficiencies) you were investigating and learning more about?

(2) Report -50%

The key aspect of the report is that it should be <u>constructed by the children</u>. Even in a class entry, it is important that the judges can clearly see that the learners have constructed the entry, <u>NOT</u> the educator. Where it is clearly evident that the educator has taken the children's work and compiled it as a class entry, the entry will be moved into the Educator section.

The Report is the key way in which children can share their learning journey with the judges. It should clearly describe the mathematics they have learnt and explored, and most importantly the "so what". Why did they choose this investigation? Why does it matter to them? Now they have completed it, what difference will it make to their learning lives or their personal lives?

The report section of the learner entry should include information constructed by the children related to:

• DESCRIPTION

- How they chose the question/investigation
- How long the investigation took
- What they did, how they went about investigating the question and making their conclusions (work samples could be included here to demonstrate your working, thinking and strategies)

MATHEMATICAL REFLECTIONS

- What mathematics did you need to use that you already knew about or how to do?
- What mathematics did you learn by undertaking this investigation?
- Why did mathematics matter in your investigation? What did it help you do?
- What questions about mathematics do you have now? What mathematical questions do you have now?
- How have you changed/developed as a mathematician by undertaking this investigation?

• LEARNING REFLECTIONS

- Things that worked well and difficulties encountered
- For group and class entries they could describe how they worked together
- What they would do differently next time
- So what? Why did this question / investigation matter to you, to others or to the community?

CONCLUSION

- What they found out
- Generalisations
- Further directions

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- Acknowledge help given by other adults and/or students
- · References used

The use of headings may assist in the writing of the report. The report could be written as a separate item or the key headings could be addressed throughout the children's learning evidence. Where necessary, educators may annotate learner's written reports so that the judging panel can interpret them. There is also a learning journal proforma available for both "class" and "individual/small group" learning teams - this may help you organise your thinking and learning as you go. It is available on the Challenge page on the website.

KEY REFLECTION POINT: Can the judges clearly see you using your mathematical thinking to explain what you have been learning and investigating in your entry?

The judges are always looking for evidence of children thinking critically and creatively as they explore and think mathematically!

Educator Statement as part of the Learner Entry

Educators are encouraged to complete a brief statement (on the back of the Learner Entry Form) describing the context of the learner(s) and how the mathematics was investigated as this will assist the judges in making a fair analysis of your children's entry/entries. Examples of "context statements" are available on the Challenge website.

<u>Packaging</u>

So that we can ensure that the judges can see ALL aspects of your investigation please include details of the number of separate components that make up your entry (as requested on the bottom of the Learner Entry form) and we ask that each component must be clearly labelled.

Maximising participation...

There are many ways to maximise participation from your site. There are LOTS of categories – so one way of maximising the number of entries you can send in is to "manage" the entry process so that people are doing different categories – eg: if you have two Year 3 classes – one might do an "open" investigation while another does one of the Set Investigations. Given that there are lots of Set Investigations and three categories – class, individual and small group – there is space for lots of your learners to get involved!

Alternatively you can have as many learners as you wish participate at the site level and then you could run a "site judging process". Some sites have really turned this into a "maths festival" - for example one site has a Maths Evening where all entries are displayed and then learners, families and educators all case their vote for which ones should be sent into the State Challenge.

Your site could organise a group of judges to select site winners in each category i.e.: An Individual, Small Group and Class entry for each year level in both Option ONE and Option TWO (you can have one entry in each Set Investigation topic) if appropriate. Site judges could include site-based staff; Governing Council or School Council/Board members and community representatives.

So in summary...We can accept only entry from each Option/Year Level/Category into the State Challenge. Eg: only one Yr 3 Individual Own Investigation, or only one Reception Small Group Set Investigation 3 These entries are then to be forwarded to PMA for State Judging by the end of week 1, term 4 -Thursday 19th October, 12noon If two entries are sent in for the same category neither can be considered for State Judging.

A copy of the judging sheet used by P.M.A. is attached at page 17/18 of this booklet and may be helpful when judging in your site.

Special Needs/Disabilities Category EALD / IELC Category

SPECIAL NEEDS / DISABLITIES

In 2023, we are again inviting entries from learners with Special Needs/Disabilities. This includes children from Special Classes and children in your school who have an identified learning disability or a special learning need.

To assist judges, we ask their educator to provide information regarding the nature of the disability/learning need.

EALD / IELC

In 2023 we are pleased to again provide a category for IELC / EALD learners. This will allow learners and educators to share the amazing ways that they are learning mathematics and also learning English at the same time.

Important Dates

COLLECTION POINTS

Term 4, Week 1, Thursday 19th October, 12noon

1. c/- Principal, Thomas Harvey at Elizabeth East PS

2.c/- Assistant Principal, Tara Augustin, Reynella South School

3. c/- Deputy Principal, Deb Postema, Cowandilla PS

4.c/- Leader of Learning, Alison Hubner, St Francis of Assisi, Newton

4. c/- PMA Office at PO Box 635, Salisbury, 5108

21st October State Judging

26th October Notification by email to Award recipients

10th November, 6pm: Presentation of State Awards by Minister

Further Information

More information on the PMA Mathematics Challenge is available by contacting:

PMA's Clerical Officer - Deb Prout

Phone: (08) 8182 3288 Fax: (08) 8182 3299

Email: primarymaths@bigpond.com

Website: https://www.primarymathematicssa.com/

ABN 60 162 906 150



PMA POWERFUL LEARNERS: MATHEMATICS & NUMERACY CHALLENGE SITE REGISTRATION FORM 2023

Looking for a great way to involve and engage the learners in your environment in some targeted and personalised learning investigations? Looking to have your children's learning recognised on the State stage?

Then this Challenge is for you!

DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION HAS FUNDED EVERY SITE TO PARTICIPATE

	E	T	R	E	S	4F	RΕ	I	U	JΕ	1	N	C	N	17	Γŀ	ıu	ır	SC	la	y	19	9 ^{tl}	h ()(cto	b	e	r,	W	/e	el	()	1,	T	er	'n	1 4	1		
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I wish to register for children/adults from this site to participate in the 2023 PMA *Powerful Learners: Mathematics& Numeracy Challenge*.

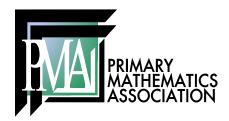
We think we will be lodging entries in

- Learners "Exploring YOUR OWN mathematics investigation"
- Learners "Exploring a SET mathematics investigation"
- Learners "Exploring a SET FINANCIAL CAPABILITY investigation"
- Educator entry

At this stage we think we will be participating as:

	□ Whole site	
	Some learning spaces (please list approx. number) How many?	
Site:_	:	
Email	ail Address:	
Conta	ntact Person: Mobile No :	

Primary Mathematics Association, P.O. Box 635, Salisbury, SA 5108 EMAIL ON primarymaths@bigpond.com



2023 DOWERFUL LEARNERS: MATHEMATICS & NUMERACY CHALLENGE

SCHOOL EDUCATOR ENTRY FORM

(to be attached to educator entries only)

Educator:								
Year Level of Students you learn with:								
Site:								
Email :								
I WISH	I TO SUBMIT AN EDUCATOR ENTRY IN: (please tick)							
0	Reflection on Mathematics Challenge Reflection on implementation of the Department's new "Four Areas of Impact" from the new Strategy for Public Education into mathematics learning and teaching Reflection on implementation of Financial Literacy/Financial Capability How Research is informing my practice							
in Mather	e aims of PMA is to publish and promote effective learning and teaching practices matics and Numeracy. Your educator entry may be featured in a future PMA on, and this is a condition of entry. Please sign the release form below to signal ement							
PMA Mat	and that as part of the conditions of entry to the Educator Entry section of the hematics Challenge, I am giving consent for my entry (all or part) to be l as part of a PMA publication for distribution to members.							
Signed	Date :							



2023 MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE, "JUDGING" DAY SHEET

SECTION: A (this section to be completed by entrant and sent in with entry)

Entry	/ Title:		
Chi	ild /Group Name:		
Site	e:		
	PLEASE TICK		
	☐ Option One – Own	Year level:	Category
	investigation	☐ Reception	☐ Individual
	mvestigation	☐ Year One	
			☐ Small Group
	□ Option Two – Set	☐ Year Two	□ Class
	Investigation	☐ Year Three	
	If so, which one?	☐ Year Four	Sub-Category (if relevant)
	,	☐ Year Five	□ IELC `
	☐ Option Three—Set	☐ Year Six	□ EALD
	•	l Car Six	
	Investigation –		
	Financial		☐ Learning Needs
	Capability		
	If so, which one?		
	,		

Comments for the learner...

A	ddition	al Comm	ients for	the	learner

Mathematical Focus	50%	Little Evidence	→ Ver Evide	
• Content Strand	Number Algebra Measurement Geometry Statistics Probability			
Proficiency Str □ □ □ □ □	rands Reasoning Understanding Fluency			_
	Problem Solving			
Can the judges clearly	Problem Solving y see which mathematic	es (Content and P	oficiencies) you w	/ere
_	Problem Solving y see which mathematic	es (Content and P	oficiencies) you w	vere
Can the judges clearly investigating and lear Report 50% Can the judges clear	Problem Solving y see which mathematic ning more about? rly see you using your ing and investigating effections ion	r mathematical t		



2023 POWERFUL LEARNERS: MATHEMATICS & NUMERACY CHALLENGE

LEARNER ENTRY FORM (to be attached to all learner entries) –

**Please complete Learner Entry Form with a black pen and use BLOCK LETTERS. Place in an A4 plastic sheet protector and staple to entry. Educator, please check names. The learner's name on entry form will be the name printed on certificates.

Contact Educator		
Title of Entry:		
Name(s): (Please print clearly)	Yr. P	Name(s) Yr. Level
Group/Class Name: Year Level: School:		s (up to 6) / Forename(s) and Surname(s)
Phone: ()PLEASE TICK	Fax: ()	Courier:
□ Option One – Own	Year level:	Category
investigation	☐ Reception	on
□ Option Two – Set	☐ Year Or ☐ Year Tv	1
Investigation	☐ Year Th	
If so, which one?	☐ Year Fo	our Sub-Category (if relevant)
-	☐ Year Fiv	
□ Option Three – Set	☐ Year Siz	
Investigation – Financial		SWD
Financial Capability		☐ Learning Needs
Capability If so, which one?		

CONTEXT STATEMENT FROM EDUCATOR: (what do the judges need to know to have a sense of your learners and what they done)

ENTRY Components: If your entry has separate components please list them below: *NB. Each component should be clearly labelled.*