MiS Presentation

Tom Mann

March 10, 2025

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Context

- This project was conducted in partnership with Our Lady and St Thomas catholic school (OLST).
- OLST is a co-educational primary academy located in Willington for students aged 4 - 11.
- OLST is a small school with only on class of 18-20 students per year.

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Aims

- Inital consultation with teacher
 - Increase confidence in girls ability in maths
 - This goes hand in hand with decreasing maths anxiey in girls
 - In the long term this could possibly increase performance in girls, increasing number of girls achieving 'Greater Depth' in SATs
- Focus on increasing confidence and decreasing anxiety
 - Nationally girls perform at a very similar level to boys in SATs (Gov.uk, 2024)
 - Women are more than twice as likely to experience maths anxiety than men (National Numeracy, 2024)
 - Boys tend to believe more than girls do that their intellectual abilities are causing their high marks in maths (Georgiou, S. N. et al, 2007)

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Format & Content

- Lunch time sessions about 30 minutes long
- Only girls in the session
 - In mixed classrooms boys are more likely to speak louder and overpower the class
 - Girls are not going to worry about what boys think of them
- The content of the sessions is not defined by the aims.

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Session 1: Introduction

The aim of this project is very individual, it is

- What is the level of maths anxiety among the girls?
 - All girls reported some level of anxiety
- What are the causes of maths anxiety?
 - Judgement
 - Fear of being left behind
 - Frustration
- How can these causes be treated?

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Session 2: Möbius Strips

This session involved the girls constructing and exploring the physical properties of a Möbius strip. The aim of this session was to allow the girs to enjoy the process of maths and to introduce some creativity into maths.



Figure: Möbius Strip

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Session 3/4: Statistics

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Session 5: Coordinate Grid

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Evaluation

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