

# Old Ford Primary & Culloden Primary: Building a holistic approach to financial education



---

*“Prior to the work with pfeg money was an incidental part of our mathematics work. Having done this work it now brings it to the front of the mind in a meaningful way.”*

Mary Rogers, Maths Manager, Old Ford Primary School

---

As part of What Money Means in Initial Teacher Training, **pfeg** have worked closely with the Old Ford and Culloden Primary Schools Partnership, Tower Hamlets, London. The Old Ford Teaching School Alliance is one of the first wave of National Teaching Schools involved in the training and professional development of teachers. The Schools have a strong relationship with a number of university teacher training departments and these relationships have been strengthened by the work developed through financial education.

## Key focus

The headteacher who manages both Old Ford and Culloden has a holistic approach to the work of the Teaching School. Her philosophy is that if they are to be successful the entire school staff, teachers, non-teachers and trainees, must be involved. Therefore the key focus when developing a programme for financial education in ITT was that all staff had to be up-skilled.



## Approach

At the start of the academic year all education staff including the GTP trainees from both schools attended an introductory half day CPD on financial education. After the general introduction, a task was set to plan a lesson or a series of lessons to be taught in the first half term with the aim of introducing financial education to all of the pupils.

The headteacher suggested that the next step should be that the Maths Managers and the GTP students should work together to develop their expertise in delivering financial education through maths. The Maths Manager had recently delivered a mathematics CPD session focussing on the importance of using real-life contexts to

enhance the understanding of maths. It was felt that this could be well exploited in the link between maths and financial education.

A week of finance related maths sessions were planned and each of the Maths Managers offered demonstration lessons to trainees from visiting universities and NQTs from Tower Hamlets.

The Maths Manager at **Culloden School** planned a series of lessons with her Year 1 class encouraging them to take responsibility for their spending, budgeting and using change. Many of the practical activities involved handling coins.

At **Old Ford School** the Maths Manager taught a lower ability Year 6 maths set and used puppets as a 'hook' throughout the week. The puppets showed different approaches to the way in which money could be used and provided great motivation. The pupils advised the puppets on the most effective use of their money, based on calculations they had made.

**See both these lessons in action [here](#).**

## Impact

The demonstration lessons were very well received; inspiring lecturers and students from the Institute of Education, University of Cumbria, University of East London and Southbank.

---

*“Anytime I plan now I will think about how I can bring money into this whatever subject area it is that I’m engaged with*

Graduate Teacher Programme trainee, Old Ford Primary School

---