



Chris Samways, Project Officer April 2024



#### Introduction

As part of Hertfordshire County Council, Step2Skills offers both adult community learning and employment support. We aim to work with people who face barriers to education and employment such as low skills, learning or physical disabilities and mental health conditions. Our mission is to inspire and support people from diverse backgrounds, overcome challenges and realise their ambitions. Multiply is a national campaign to improve people's confidence with numbers and we are proud to be part of this campaign.

## **Project background**

This is the second year of three for Multiply programme. Herts Sport & Physical Activity Partnership (HSP) (as part of the partnership delivering Multiply) are delivering a portion of this campaign across Hertfordshire to residents aged 19+ through fun and engaging activities that integrate numeracy skills in to being active. The courses are sociable and normally hosted in community venues over 15 hours in one-two hour sessions.

### Implementation

HSP are targeted with engaging 200 learners each year through 15 hours of guided learning linking numeracy and physical activity. Each partner, Apex 360 and Stevenage FC Foundation, are tasked with reaching 100 leaners each year covering the West and East side of the county respectively.

The partnership aims to engage working age population that has a Level two or lower in Maths to provide more confidence for learners to use maths skills for life and employment opportunities. Many of

these groups are existing social groups that the partnership has targeted to add a Multiply element to this activity following learning form Year one to educate through stealth.

Learners are tracked from enrolment to completion to understand achievement through attendance of 60% and clear development of their ability and/or confidence in numeracy and physical activity.

> Multiply tutor comments on a learner nominated for STAR Achiever of the Year - "... now volunteers at a local café, perseverance in pursuing her goals and demonstrates strong teamwork skills and offers support to individuals with less confidence in mathematics".

Stevenage FC

Foundation

Apex 360

# Partnerships



#### **COMMUNITY GROUPS**

North Herts College Special Olympics St Albans Prince's Trust Services for Young People Age UK – Clithroe Centre Woodhall Community Centre Welwyn & Hatfield Day Service Croxley Green Community Centre Greenhills Day Service

### **Outcomes and Benefits**

Learners are introduced to numeracy through gentle and stealthy activities embedded in physical activity and sport. After a huge amount of effort from delivery partners, the target of 200 learners was made. Leaners are introduced to being more active but also socially engaged in numeracy which is integrated into all sport through scoring and teamwork.

#### **Key Learnings**

Management of paperwork with delivery partners is needed to ensure quality assurance tasks are successful.

Working with groups and referral agencies to gain access to the correct audiences is difficult, which raises participation of the older population and SEND audience.

#### **Next Steps**

Year Two Paperwork Processing all paperwork and reporting on Learner Track final evidence

Year Three Planning Meetings planned between Delivery Partners and Relationship Manager to finalise year three targets 2

#### **Audit & Evaluation**

Collecting a range of learning and data to support the fantastic work completed so far to prepare for end of programme March 2025

# Conclusion

Success of reaching our target in year two has shown the challenge to reach another 200 learners in year three but has also provided plenty of learning about audiences and engagement



methods. Further partnership working needed between delivery partners to embed good practice and showcase a how physical activity and sport can assist in education and employment.





