

# Donations and Sponsorship Policy



United Kingdom  
Mathematics Trust

## 1. About the UK Mathematics Trust

- a. The UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT) is a registered charity whose aim is to advance the education of children and young people in mathematics. The UKMT organises national mathematics competitions and other mathematical enrichment activities for 11-18 year old UK school pupils.
- b. We were established in 1996 and have now built up to the point where over 650,000 pupils from more than 4500 schools take part in the three individual challenges, the UK's biggest national maths competitions. High performing students in these competitions are invited to participate in follow-on rounds and join our mentoring schemes, with the most able undertaking further training, which could lead to them representing the UK in overseas maths competitions, including the prestigious International Mathematical Olympiad.
- c. The Trust also runs two team competitions: in 2015/16, over 1,750 schools from around the UK participated in the Team Maths Challenge aimed at pupils aged 12 - 14, and more than 1,200 schools and colleges participated in the Senior Team Maths Challenge for 16 - 18 year old pupils. All our activities aim to stimulate mathematical thinking and enhance problem solving skills rather than rote learning.
- d. The UKMT also runs teacher training CPD events throughout the UK in the form of its teacher meetings, and organises and runs the National Mathematics Summer Schools. We promote mathematics for girls through our Mathematical Olympiad for Girls and Summer School for Girls. Our Mathematical Circles provide a stimulating environment for bright mathematicians from various geographical locations to come together for two days and follow a mathematically demanding programme. We also produce freely available materials to enable secondary schools to run mathematical team events for their feeder primary schools.
- e. All our activities are run at low cost aided by a huge network of committed volunteers (mainly school maths teachers and academics) throughout the UK.

## 2. Donations and Sponsorships

- a. The UKMT relies upon a balance of financial resources, coming from entry fees for its mathematics competitions, grants from public sector sources (when they are available), and sponsorship and charitable donations. The Council of the UKMT is ultimately responsible for determining the use of funding and ensuring that it advances our mission which is, as stated above, "to advance the education of children and young people in mathematics." In deciding whether to accept or refuse a particular donation or offer of sponsorship, Council is required, by Charity Law, to consider which course will, taking an overall view, be in the charity's best interest.
- b. It is clearly in the interests of the UKMT to diversify its sources of funding in order to increase its ability to pursue its mission and to safeguard its activities in times of economic difficulty. Fundraising from sponsors and donors is therefore an important element of ensuring the financial resources to achieve the UKMT's core objectives.
- c. Maintaining the independence and reputation of the UKMT is paramount for all funding relationships. In every funding relationship the UKMT will consistently reserve the right to:
  - i. control the standards and entry criteria for all its competitions and activities;
  - ii. control the selection of committee members and volunteers for any of its activities;
  - iii. ensure that all its safeguarding policies are adhered to; the safety and appropriate privacy of all children and young people involved in UKMT activities is paramount.

- d. The UKMT recognises the right of sponsors and donors to be given agreed recognition, and for them to be involved appropriately in events organised by UKMT, but it will not accept support or enter into a partnership where:
  - i. its independence or freedom of action are unreasonably constrained;
  - ii. its exercise of judgement on policy matters or within the conduct of competitions or the selection of teams is impeded;
  - iii. the source of funding is illegal, unethical or of doubtful legality or felt to be unethical;
  - iv. its association with a particular partner would bring the Trust's reputation for independence and excellence into doubt;
  - v. it is felt that partners might put undue pressure on participants in UKMT activities to buy or otherwise make use of particular goods and services, or to take part in, or otherwise support or subscribe to, a partner's trade, business or other activities.
- e. In case of doubt, Council will exercise the final judgement about the desirability of a proposed partnership or funding arrangement. Development activities are routinely reported to the Finance and General Purposes Committee and to Council.
- f. UKMT will not disclose personal information from individual donors to other organisations.