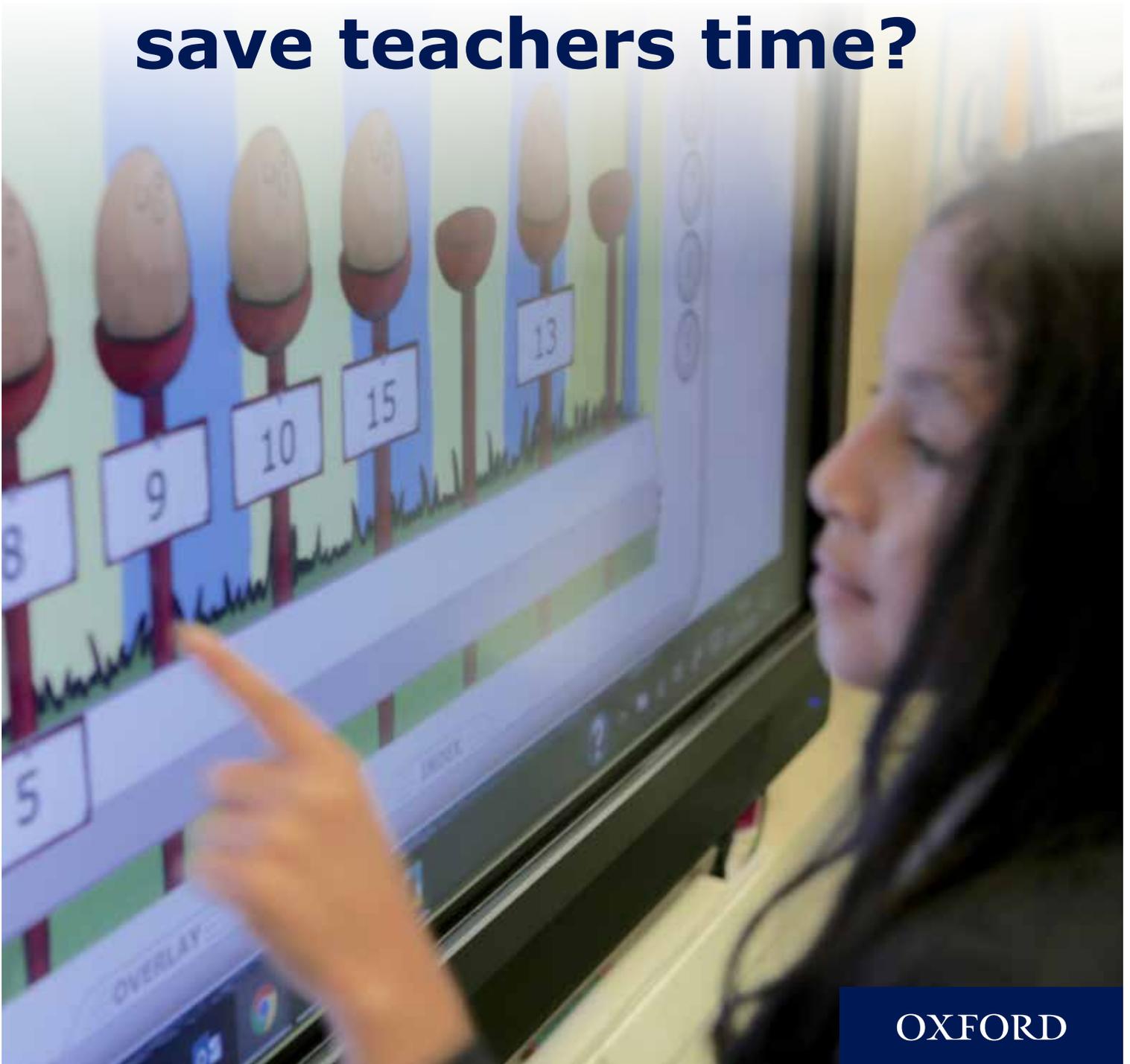




To what extent does using MyMaths save teachers time?



Objective:

With teacher workload a concern at all levels of the education sector, Oxford University Press undertook an impact study* to find out to what extent MyMaths saves teachers time in Primary and Secondary schools in England.

Methodology:

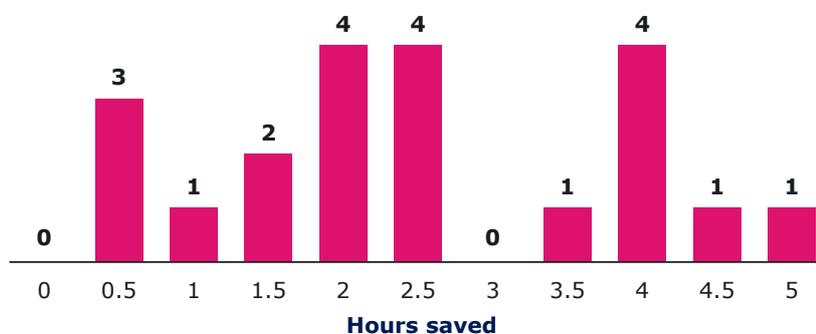
The impact study involved 22 one-to-one in-depth interviews with teachers who are using MyMaths in schools across England (12 Secondary and 10 Primary) in order to gather deep and rich feedback. Both Primary and Secondary school teachers told us that they were able to save a significant amount of time as a consequence of using MyMaths particularly when it comes to planning, setting and marking of homework.

Key Findings:

Perception of time saved by teachers

Both Primary and Secondary teachers told us that time saved ranged from 15 minutes a week to five hours a week, with the average time saving perceived to be around two hours a week.

In an average week, roughly how much time do you save as a result of using MyMaths?



*Note: The above chart shows 21 responses as one participant felt unable to estimate an average weekly time saving.

"A massive amount of time, I cannot put into words how useful it is in that respect, to go from having to find a sheet, to put in a homework book, or to set a task in a homework book, then differentiate it, then get it stuck in, and then get someone to print it out then get the children to bring their books back and mark them. That is the most useful thing about it."

Primary school teacher

"It saves us so much time ...because you use it for setting homework, so it saves every member of staff, probably, per class, 40 minutes to an hour per week, per class that they teach at key stage 3."

Secondary school teacher

Saving time planning, resourcing and marking homework

All 22 Teachers perceived a time-saving benefit from MyMaths across a range of activities, but the most significant was with regards to the sourcing, setting and marking of homework.

"It saves time because after a few clicks of the mouse I've given out the homework to a whole class."
Secondary school teacher

"I think it gives me more time to plan and actually be a better teacher."
Secondary school teacher

"Probably the planning [of lessons]... because everything is in one place. I'm not having to look all over the Internet just to find things I need."
Primary school teacher

Teachers were very clear that the MyMaths feature that helped to save them the most time was the automated marking software.

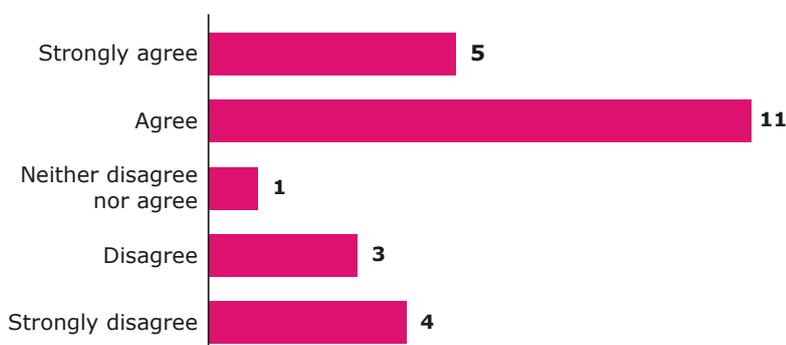
"Gosh. Well. Yeah...especially the marking of homework as well, because it's already marked for you."
Primary school teacher

"Well certainly, in terms of marking, and when you're teaching Year 7 through to 13, we do more marking, I think, than an average school in that respect. We do a lot of homework...And books are taken in regularly in all subjects and marked and we give them feedback...not having to do that on a weekly basis cuts the workload down by 50 percent in terms of marking."
Primary school teacher

More time for intervention

16/22 participants agreed that saving time using MyMaths allows them to spend more time on interventions and one-to-one teaching.

Saving time using MyMaths allows you to spend more time on intervention and one-to-one teaching



"The sooner you can do your intervention, the more confident the child is...You can maybe deal with something very simple and straightforward very quickly..."
Primary school teacher

"It's very rewarding for the students and for the member staff as well. So from that perspective it gives you a sense of worth, and that's really important in this job."
Head of Maths at a Secondary School

More time to spend on other tasks



18/22 participants agreed that saving time using MyMaths allowed them to address other tasks which they previously didn't have time for.

"It means I've got more time for the kind of headship part of the job because it helps me to organise the teaching part much more quickly..."
Primary school teacher

"The freed-up time has given us time as a department to think about what we are trying to do, create extra resources to get the children outside of the classroom to do more fun things, and time to start thinking about what else we can do with the children."
Secondary school teacher

Conclusion:

Time saved using MyMaths is especially evident to teachers when it comes to planning, setting, and marking homework. Other time saving benefits that teachers told us about were more time dedicated to intervention or personalised learning, and also with regards to resourcing and planning for teaching.

The time that teachers save as a consequence of using MyMaths also allows them to get on with a wide-variety of other tasks that are daily requirements for a teacher, such as other marking, planning, resourcing, or additional commitments and responsibilities, such as pastoral care or school management.

This study was planned and implemented using the Oxford Impact Framework. The Framework is a systematic approach to evaluating the impact of Oxford University Press products and services, developed through a unique collaboration with the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) and supported by the Oxford University Department of Education.



OXFORD IMPACT FRAMEWORK
EVALUATING EDUCATIONAL PRODUCTS AND SERVICES FROM OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

*An impact study is research that investigates a particular change or outcome that a product or service has on the group of people it is intended to help or benefit. For more information on Oxford Impact studies please visit www.oup.com/oxfordimpact

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