

**IMA Mathematics Anxiety
International Conference 2026**

Draft Programme

Tuesday 30th June – Thursday 2nd July 2026

Centre for Mathematical Sciences
Wilberforce Rd, Cambridge, CB3 0WA, UK

Day 1

09:00 – 09:45	Registration with Tea & Coffee
09:45 – 10:00	Welcome, housekeeping, introduction – <i>Meena Kotecha</i>
	Session Chair: Theo Gilbert
10:00 – 11:00	Keynote 1 Cognitive Neuroscience of Mathematics Anxiety <i>Professor Dénes Szűcs, University of Cambridge</i>
11:00 – 11:30	Tea & Coffee Break
11:30 – 12:00	Mathematics Anxiety as a Global Challenge: Research and Innovation <i>Meena Kotecha</i>
12:00 – 12:30	Statistics as Ritualised Calculation: How Cookbook Teaching Fuels Anxiety and Undermines Conceptual Understanding <i>Cedric Ginestet</i>
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
	Session Chair: Meena Kotecha
13:30 – 14:30	Keynote 2 Addressing Mathematics Anxiety in Higher and Continuing Education: Insights From a 30+ Year Career and Implications of the Emerging Role of AI <i>Professor Neil Spencer, University of Hertfordshire</i>
14:30 – 15:00	Nurturing Resourceful, Resilient and Confident Learners: a pedagogical model for teaching mathematics at school level <i>Charlie Gilderdale & Liz Woodham</i>
15:00 – 15:30	Review of Literature on Mathematical Anxiety in Undergraduate Students of Mathematics <i>Ric Crossman</i>
15:30 – 16:00	Tea & Coffee Break
16:00 – 16:30	'I'm not really a maths person but...' A Work-in Progress Mixed Methods Study of Maths Anxiety Among Post-16 GCSE Maths Resit Students <i>Christopher Lewoski</i>
16:30 – 17:00	Mathematical Resilience – a more effective way of thinking about learning? <i>Clare Lee</i>
	Poster Presentation Suggestion
17:15 – 18:15	Poster Reception to include prize for best ECR poster

Day 2

	Session Chair: Lindsey Compton
09:00 – 10:00	Keynote 3 Maths Anxiety Experiences, Triggers and Origins: Implications for Theory and Practice <i>Dr Ros McLellan, University of Cambridge</i>
10:00 – 10:30	Mathematical Anxiety Safeguarding through Mathematical Story Picture Books: A Case Study of Grade Three Children in Kenya <i>Harrison Mbogo</i>
10:30 – 11:00	The Interplay of Gender Ability Beliefs, Mathematics Anxiety, and Performance in Early Primary Education <i>Romee Halidu</i>
11:00 – 11:30	Tea & Coffee Break
11:30 – 12:00	Parental and Teacher Math Anxiety: Differential Contributions to Math Anxiety and Mathematical Competence in Primary School Children <i>Caterina Primi</i>
12:00 – 12:30	Who Are Sensitive? Individual Differences in the Development of Math Anxiety and Math Enjoyment <i>Sanne Van der Ven</i>
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
	Session Chair: Hugh Jones
13:30 – 14:30	Keynote 4 Mathematics Phobia: A Neurological Understanding and Evidence-Based Pathways to Rewiring the Brain <i>Dr Sweta Adatia, Garhash Hospital, Dubai</i>
14:30 – 15:00	Understanding Mathematics Anxiety through Life Stories: Insights for Adult Learning Environments <i>Maria Ryan</i>
15:00 – 15:30	Mathematics Anxiety Outside of Educational Contexts – The Development of a New Scale <i>Ciara Turner</i>
15:30 – 16:00	Tea & Coffee Break

16:00 – 16:30	Not Only Learners: The Importance of Acknowledging Maths Anxiety in Teachers <i>Thomas Hunt</i>
16:30 – 17:00	Mathematics Anxiety, Mathematics Teaching Anxiety and General Anxiety in Teachers, and their Links with Primary School Pupils' Mathematics Anxiety and Mathematics Performance <i>Kinga Morsyani</i>
19:00	Conference Dinner, Fellows Room, Murray Edwards College

Day 3

	Session Chair: Mark Hodds
09:00 – 10:00	Keynote 5 From Evaluation Threat to Supported Agency: Reducing Mathematics Anxiety Through Supportive STEM Environments <i>Veronica Cavicchi, Liceo Scientifico 'Annibale Calini', Italy</i>
10:00 – 10:30	Mathematics Anxiety Shapes STEM Learning in American Sign Language <i>Rachel Sortino</i>
10:30 – 11:00	Understanding and Supporting Students Experiencing Maths Anxiety in a UK Distance Learning University <i>Susan Pawley</i>
11:00 – 11:30	Tea & Coffee Break
11:30 – 12:15	Panel Discussion: Future Directions in Mathematics Anxiety Research & Practice
12:15 – 13:15	Lunch & Close

Poster Session Tuesday 30th June 17:15 - 18:15

Masha Apostolidu	Predicting Mathematics Self-efficacy and Anxiety in Further Education Students: The Importance of Individual Psychological Variables
Laura Barrera Romero	The Pace Model of Mathematical Anxiety: A Multidimensional Framework Based on a Systematic Review
Rachid Berd-Gómez	Anxiety About Teaching Math in Spain. Psychometric Study of MAST15 and MTAS19 Instruments
Tanya Evans	Affective Profiles of Undergraduate Mathematics Students: Exam-Related Anxiety, Achievement Emotions, Self-Efficacy, and Stress
Paula Fieldhouse	Can an Intervention for Parents Reduce the Intergenerational Transmission of Maths Anxiety – A Doctoral Study
Emma B Fleming	Beyond the Score: Defining Mathematics Confidence and the Impact of Grading
Joseph Gottah	The DigiBus: A Confidence-Led, Student-Owned Diagnostic Tool for Reducing Mathematics Anxiety in Post-16 Education
Romee Halidu	Exploring Teacher Mathematics Anxiety A Multi Method Study into Implicit Associations, Self-Reports, and Classroom Manifesta
Stacy Marshall	An Exploration into the Relationship Between Number Talks, Anxiety, and Attitudes Towards Mathematics for Primary Girls in England
Jinhua Mathias	Mathematics Anxiety in Widening-Participation Students: Triggers, Impacts, and Coping Strategies
Jack Morewood	Investigating Feelings about Mathematics among Architecture, Building and Planning Students in The United Kingdom
Kei Shing Ng	Comparative Analysis of Mathematics Anxiety Among Form 5 Students in Hong Kong's Tiered Schooling System
Elham Rezasoltani	Reducing Mathematics Anxiety through Peer-Led Team Learning in Undergraduate Physics

Beatriz Ruiz	Understanding Maths Anxiety in Mexico: Emotional Skills and Early Primary Students' Performance
Flavia Santos	Profiling Emotional and Educational Factors Linked to Statistics Achievement
Eva Van de Weijer-Bergsma	Do Coping Strategies Moderate the Relationship between Math Self-Concept, Math Anxiety And Math Performance?
Sara Vergallo	Reducing Math Anxiety Through Mindful Breathing in First-Year STEM Students
Silke Wortha	Math Anxiety in Later Life: Distinct Impacts on Cognitive Interference, Health Literacy, and Financial Well-being
Anastasiia Yakovenko	From Mathematics Anxiety to Mathematics as Therapy: Real Cases from a Ukrainian University