

Attractive free poster with this issue

Brighten your classroom walls with posters based on work in SMP Interact. There's a free one with this issue and you can order more on the enclosed **SMP publications** form.

**Up-to-the-minute information
on the very best of maths
teaching materials**

First new SMP A2 book for AQA launched

With our new books for the popular AQA AS units complete, the first of the A2 books, Core 3, has now made its debut. This series has enjoyed an excellent take-up both by centres that have used SMP materials in the past and by those that haven't. Unlike most of the competing texts, which are adaptations of older books, ours are filled with fresh new writing that has a precise match to the new specification. They have been particularly praised for their clear development sections, which involve students in making sense of new topics and support teacher-led work. As usual with SMP materials, detailed input from practising teachers has been the key ingredient for an outstanding product.

The books are just as strong on all the other things you expect at this level – carefully chosen worked examples, well-

SMP books for AQA AS/A2

Now available

Core 1	0 521 60525 3	£8.50
Core 2	0 521 60526 1	£8.50
Mechanics 1	0 521 60528 8	£10.00
Statistics 1	0 521 60527 X	£10.00
Core 3	0 521 60529 6	£8.50

Forthcoming

Core 4	0 521 60530 X	£8.50	May 2005
Mechanics 2	0 521 60532 6	£10.00	Oct 2005
Statistics 2	0 521 60531 8	£10.00	July 2005

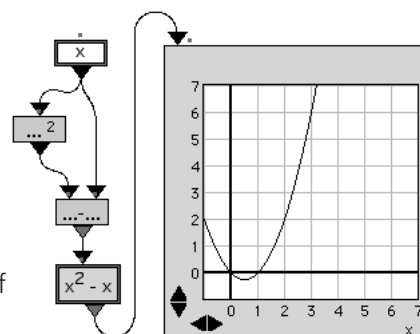
graded and plentiful exercises giving practice in techniques and past exam questions to build confidence. To order or to see inspection copies, contact Cambridge University Press (details below) or use the SMP AS/A2 order form enclosed with this issue of *SMP News*.

Appealing applets are latest addition to free on-line support for SMP Interact

By arrangement with the highly respected Freudenthal Institute in the Netherlands, we have now referenced our SMP Interact materials to many of the applets that the Institute has carefully developed. These references and a direct link to the applets, which are downloadable free of charge, are on www.smpmaths.org.uk

Each applet is a computer program which, by focusing on a particular mathematical concept, creates a learning environment in which pupils can discuss the ideas, gain understanding, experiment and receive feedback on their efforts. The SMP website, which has been awarded a four star rating by Schoolzone, contains

many more professional support resources and information. The SMP is committed to giving further high quality support for SMP Interact. Look out for further details in future issues of *SMP News*.



Free SMP Interact resources already on our website

- Detailed mapping of the key stage 3 framework on to the books
- Medium term planner, giving the course objectives for each section of a chapter and detailed links to the framework (in Excel format, making it the ideal editable planning tool)
- Downloadable samples of the key stage 3 assessment materials (see over)
- The key stage 3 books related to national curriculum levels
- Mappings for the OCR, Edexcel and AQA modular GCSE specifications

Publication details and book orders: educustserve@cambridge.org 01223 325588
www.cambridge.org/secondary/mathematics

Professional support and resources: office@smpmaths.org.uk www.smpmaths.org.uk

Continuing acclaim for SMP Interact

Recent comments in mathematics education journals have increased the confidence that teachers can feel when they adopt SMP Interact. Writing about the key stage 3 materials – which have already received a four star rating from *The TES* – the reviewer for *Mathematics in School* remarks: 'In general, I think they are an excellent set of books and have much to offer in terms of ideas and appeal to students.' They do not, she stresses, just offer exercises: 'They require teacher-led lessons and have the potential for plenty of mathematical discussion. They claim to be built on the ethos of the Framework and I think SMP have succeeded in doing that.'



SMP always seem to produce materials with quality written all over.

Mathematical Gazette

Commenting on the support provided for teachers, she says: 'The teacher's handbook is not a standard, answers only, guide to the students' book. It is packed with ideas for starters and interesting activities for the central part of the lesson.'

The *Mathematical Gazette*, meanwhile, has similar praise for the teachers' guides that accompany the SMP Interact GCSE course: 'Yes, they do give answers, but the extra guidance included makes them into true guides and worth every penny.' The *Gazette* reviewer remarks on the 'superb' overall appearance of the GCSE students' books and applauds

their many special features. 'All the new topics for the latest GCSE syllabus are covered with a thoroughness that one doesn't always find in some texts. Where it is appropriate, every opportunity is taken to make use of software: work, using spreadsheets, graph plotters or dynamic geometry packages, is contained within relevant chapters. The quality of the pupil tasks, written with imagination, emphasises the structure of the course and keeps the mathematics as realistic and relevant to the pupils as possible.'

Comments like these are consistent with the high approval ratings that user schools are giving to SMP Interact: it's the ideal partner for teachers who want to follow the spirit (as well as the letter) of the Framework or who demand an educationally sound GCSE course that suits all boards' exams. The materials stimulate the teacher, boost student motivation and play their full part in raising attainment.

The last word goes to the *Gazette* reviewer of the GCSE students' books: 'We can usually rely on SMP materials to be of good quality but these particular texts must rank amongst the best so far.'

Discs add digital versatility to assessment treasure chest

Using only basic computer skills, you can now freely adapt or combine high quality assessment materials, supplied on CD, to meet your school's particular teaching or assessment needs.

The SMP Interact assessment materials follow the structure of the key stage 3 course and contain hundreds of written assessment items – each with an estimated national curriculum level – as well as sets of mental questions. So if you don't want to adapt them you can use them as they stand: just print them off from high quality PDF files on the CD or photocopy from the accompanying hard-copy masters.

There is a set of assessment materials for each of years 7, 8 and 9. They are only available direct from the SMP, not from Cambridge University Press. You can order on the SMP publications form enclosed with this newsletter or by downloading an order form from www.smpmaths.org.uk

The School Mathematics Project
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