



# Aberdeenshire Council and Sumdog: A centralised and unified approach

**Who:** Aberdeenshire Council  
**Size:** 82 schools  
*Sumdog users since 2023*

**Aberdeenshire**  
COUNCIL



## Simplifying the selection

When Aberdeenshire Council first reached out to Sumdog, their schools were using a variety of maths resources, including Sumdog. At that time, there was no unified approach across Aberdeenshire schools, so the council were looking for an engaging and exciting tool that could work across the local area. There were also the two key issues of funding and security. The council wanted to have an accurate and central measure of spend on EdTech resources, and to ensure that teachers' and pupils' data was safe and secure as they were using these resources.

**'We have seen, first-hand, how schools are using Sumdog as one of their tools to support pupil engagement with numeracy as part of our priority in raising attainment.'**

Paul Cruickshank, Quality Improvement Officer at Aberdeenshire Council

## Prioritising data security

In May 2023, Aberdeenshire Council and Sumdog announced their special partnership to schools in the region. A key part of this partnership involved Sumdog and Aberdeenshire council working together on a data security strategy which would work for all schools. This included pseudonymising pupils' personal data and providing extra support to teachers where needed.

**'Demonstrating our commitment to the security of Aberdeenshire children's data with the Cyber Essentials certification enabled the smooth completion of the necessary data processing agreement and process on Sumdog. The whole procedure was bolstered by the passion from both sides to continue improving maths engagement across Aberdeenshire.'**

Greta Harrison, Data Protection Officer at Sumdog



## Building a supportive and ongoing relationship

Crucially, the partnership meant that all Aberdeenshire schools were able to benefit from centralised and discounted pricing, which was a huge positive for both the individual schools and the council as a whole. Schools also receive personalised support and training to aid the development of a unified approach across the region. Training sessions are based on questions and requests from teachers in order to ensure that implementation is as personalised and tailored as possible. They're recorded and shared with all staff members, facilitating an open and ongoing relationship between Aberdeenshire schools and the Sumdog team.



## Celebrating the partnership

To celebrate the new partnership, Sumdog hosted a special regional contest to unite all local schools. Pupils from every class in each school could compete with their peers across the region, leading to friendly competition and an increased sense of excitement around maths practice. At the end of the contest, the Sumdog team visited some of the local schools to congratulate pupils for their hard work – and they brought a familiar face with them...



**'It's been fantastic collaborating with Aberdeenshire Council to build a strong centralised approach to maths engagement across all of their schools, and we're very proud to continue supporting all Aberdeenshire teachers and pupils to make sure Sumdog works for them.'**  
Zoë Sinclair, Enterprise Accounts Manager at Sumdog.

## Contest champions!

Any Local Authorities who have a partnership with Sumdog can choose dates for their own regional contests. These contests are a great opportunity to raise the profile of maths and encourage friendly competition across the local area, and the hard work of every pupil is celebrated with Sumdog. These celebrations are bespoke for each Local Authority, but they can include a personalised social media shoutout, a special winners' trophy, certificates of achievement, or even an in-person visit from Sumdog himself!

During their most recent contest, Aberdeenshire schools achieved some fantastic results:



**157 classes entered the contest, racing to the top of the leaderboard**



**2,024 pupils worked together across the region**



**Over 536,000 maths questions answered during 1 week**