



School Visiting Program

The Faculty of Mathematics and Centre for Education in Mathematics and Computing visit Ontario schools to meet with students and teachers of mathematics and computer science. These visits focus on

- the importance of mathematics and computer science,
- encouraging students to work outside the curriculum to develop their problem solving skills, and
- having fun with math.

There is no charge for these visits.

On each visit, our Faculty members usually talk to students about

- Problem Solving: We look at interesting problems and talk about problem solving skills. These can be directed to specific Contests, but do not need to be.
- Careers in Mathematics and Computer Science

We can also talk to more senior students about the transition from secondary school to University, and to teachers about issues in mathematics education, curriculum, etc. Other types of sessions are also possible.

If you are interested in having us visit your school, please fill out this form. There is no obligation. We will follow up with you at your school to see if a visit can be arranged and to sort out its details.

Contact Name _____

School _____

City/Town _____

email _____

School Phone # _____

Please complete the form and mail to:

School Visiting Program
Centre for Education in Mathematics and Computing
Faculty of Mathematics
University of Waterloo
Waterloo, ON
N2L 3G1

or email to cemcvisits@math.uwaterloo.ca or fax to 519-746-6592.

School Visit Frequently Asked Questions

At what grade level are your visits aimed?

We are happy to talk to students from Grades 7 to 12.

Will you talk to all of the students in a particular grade at my school?

We can do this, however, our experience is that our visits are more appropriate for those in the Academic and University streams, in particular for strong and interested math students.

What size of group works best?

Generally, talking to groups of 40 or smaller is ideal, although larger groups are possible.

What length of session is optimal?

Sessions of 75 to 90 minutes are best.

During what part of the year will you come?

We are relatively flexible and will try to accommodate your school's needs. February and April tend to be very busy times, so we try to arrange as many visits as we can for other times.

What type of location is best? What materials will you need?

We prefer to do our talks in classrooms, but are flexible and frequently use libraries. Having a data projector and/or smart board is usually very helpful. Access to a blackboard or whiteboard is also useful.

Should I be in the room during the session?

We prefer to have at least one teacher in the session(s) with us. Most teachers find the session(s) quite interesting.

What do my students need to bring?

Students should bring a sharp pencil(HB) and some blank paper. We normally provide booklets on which the students can work on. Our sessions almost always involve the students doing lots of mathematics themselves.

Will you do multiple sessions at my school?

We are happy to do multiple sessions either consecutively (with the same Faculty member) or simultaneously (with multiple Faculty members).

Will you do computer science enrichment as well as problem solving in mathematics?

Yes, although we do require to know this in advance in order to involve the most appropriate Faculty member.

Will you talk to students from multiple schools at one location?

Definitely. Some of our most successful visits are to schools where students from many surrounding schools are brought together to one location. This is a fantastic way for students from different places to meet and interact. This works well both for surrounding secondary schools to come together and for a secondary school to bring together students from its feeder schools.

Will you meet with groups of teachers as well as groups of students?

Yes. We are happy to meet with groups of teachers during the school day, at lunch, or possibly after school. We can discuss curriculum, university expectations, educational issues, etc.