

QA Engineer

We're looking for a QA Engineer to join our development team as our first dedicated quality hire. You'll work alongside developers, designers and product managers to test features, find bugs and help ensure that what we ship works brilliantly for the children and teachers who depend on it.

This is a hands-on role. You'll spend most of your time testing. You'll be exploring features, verifying bug fixes, checking that things work as expected across our platforms. You'll also contribute to our growing suite of automated tests and help developers improve at testing their own work.

You'll be embedded in the team, joining standups, pairing with developers on tricky problems, and helping us raise the bar on quality bit by bit across Times Tables Rock Stars, NumBots and future Maths Circle products, all used by over 10 million students globally.

Email recruitment@mathscircle.com for salary range information and application process.

Who we're looking for:

- 3+ years of experience in a QA, test engineering, or similar role.
- Strong manual and exploratory testing skills.
- Experience writing automated tests using modern JavaScript testing frameworks (Jest, Playwright, Cypress or similar).
- Comfortable working with web applications built on Angular, React or similar frontend frameworks.
- Familiarity with API testing and backend services.
- Good understanding of the software development lifecycle and where testing fits in.
- Clear communicator who can write useful bug reports and explain issues to developers.
- Comfortable being embedded in a development team.

Desired but not essential:

- Experience testing applications at scale (high traffic, large user bases).
- Familiarity with MySQL and database-level testing or validation.
- Experience with Sentry or similar error tracking tools.
- Background in education technology or mission-driven organisations.
- Experience working in smaller teams where you wear multiple hats.
- Familiarity with Docker and containerised environments.

Benefits:

- Hybrid or fully remote working
- Company pension
- Pure Gym membership or private health insurance with Vitality
- Access to our mental health partner, Open Up.

How to apply:

For application details, please email:

recruitment@mathscircle.com

Responsibilities: This role reports to the Head of Engineering

Testing features and releases

Responsibilities:

Our development team ships changes frequently. You'll work closely with the Head of Engineering, Senior Developers and the wider team to identify where focused testing adds the most value, rather than attempting to test every release.

- Perform exploratory and manual testing of new features and bug fixes before they go live, working alongside developers and stakeholders;
- Verify that features are complete against requirements: catching functional issues before they reach user acceptance testing;
- Investigate, reproduce, and clearly document bugs using our existing tools (Sentry for error tracking, Asana for task management);
- Run regression testing across high-risk or complex areas of the platform;
- Reduce the testing burden on stakeholders and product managers, so they can focus on validating intent rather than finding broken functionality.

Supporting the writing and maintenance of manual and automated tests

Responsibilities:

We have automated tests in place using Jasmine, Vitest, Jest and Playwright, and we're looking to increase our automated testing to maintain our growing platform. You'll help support this effort.

- Build and maintain end-to-end tests in Playwright for critical user journeys (login flows, core game mechanics, teacher dashboards).
- Work with developers to discuss and shape integration tests, considering data quality and maintainability.
- Contribute to the team's existing test frameworks, building on what is already in place.
- Help identify which areas of the platform would benefit most from additional automated testing.

Supporting developers and the wider team

A key part of this role is helping the development team test their own work more effectively. You won't be writing all the tests yourself.

Responsibilities:

- Provide guidance on writing clear acceptance criteria for development tickets;
- Coach developers on testing approaches: reviewing their tests, pairing on tricky scenarios, and suggesting patterns that work well;
- Provide guidance on what 'adequately tested' looks like for different types of changes;
- Participate in code reviews with a quality and testing lens;
- Flag testability concerns during planning and refinement, helping the team think about edge cases early.

Our tech stack

You'll work across products built with:

- **Frontend:** Angular, React
- **Backend:** Node.js (Nest.js), PHP (Yii)
- **Databases:** MySQL, Redis
- **Testing:** Jasmine, Vitest, Jest, Playwright
- **Infrastructure:** Docker, Kubernetes, on-premises and hybrid hosting
- **Monitoring:** Sentry, Grafana
- **CI/CD:** Continuous integration and deployment systems (owned by the development team; you'll help write/check tests, they'll manage the pipeline)

What we offer

Working hours

Full time (35 hours per week, Monday to Friday, 9am - 5pm).

We understand all life circumstances are different, and so we're happy to discuss more flexible working patterns on a case-by-case basis.

Salary

Email recruitment@mathscircle.com for salary range information.

Salary will be **pro-rated** for part-time or reduced-hours arrangements.

Working location

We offer both hybrid and remote working, depending on location.

Bedford-based:

Full-time office: all staff are welcome to spend five days a week enjoying the benefits of our modern office based in Bedford.

Hybrid office: for those within a reasonable commuting distance, we offer a hybrid approach, with two days working from home each week.

Remote:

For those based further away, we offer a predominantly remote setup, with occasional visits to our Bedford office for key meetings and team events. We find that regular in-person collaboration works best for those based nearby, so fully remote roles are typically reserved for team members living further afield.

Benefits

- Company pension
- Pure Gym membership or private health insurance with Vitality
- Access to our mental health partner, Open Up, including free, regular 25-minute counselling sessions

Ever heard of Times Tables Rock Stars and NumBots?

If you have a child or sibling at primary school right now, we bet they have!

Over 10 million primary school children around the world use our platforms to master their Maths skills. You could be part of the team that help these kids achieve their potential and leave school saying "I AM good at Maths."

Our achievements:

- Small but rapidly growing team based in Bedford
- Founded in 2015 by a maths teacher with a passion to improve children's basic numeracy skills worldwide
- Queen's Award for Enterprise in 2020
- BETT 2022 Company of the Year Award
- Times Tables Rock Stars now used in over 80% of primary schools in England
- Featured in the Beano Brains' "Top 50 coolest brands for kids"

Ethos:

Whilst we work hard to make a difference to maths outcomes for millions of children across the world, we also like to have fun whilst we do it.

We have a fantastic, supportive team environment. Our constant innovation means that no day is the same and the opportunities and experiences are endless!

Our culture:

At Maths Circle, we're a community of innovators, problem-solvers, and collaborators. Our culture is built on the following core values (which we all came up with collectively as a team):

1. **Caring** - We care about the children, our customers, our community, our team, and our environment. We lead with secure design principles to maximise online safety and learners' digital wellbeing.
2. **Impactful** - We make a difference to children's education and we value each other's genius in our collective pursuit of excellence.
3. **Innovators** - We're not afraid to put smart ideas into action. We don't see a ceiling to what we can do together.
4. **Human** - We're real people with real life experiences that shape our work. We're proud of how we've grown and we talk honestly, helpfully, and with integrity.
5. **Inclusive** - We fiercely believe education should be accessible to everyone and our passion for inclusivity flows into everything we do and everything we are.
6. **Fun** - We work hard but we laugh harder. We believe that a positive buzz creates better things.

