

## **TL14: Graphing with computer based programs**

There are a number of computer based programs which can be used for graphing data. The lesson plans outline the need for pupils to draw a scatter plot by hand and use it to estimate a line of best fit.

This task may be replaced by a computer based program such as "Excel" or graphics calculators if the resources are available. Some of these programs produce their own lines of best fit and apply equations to them.

An extension activity for pupils may involve simultaneously solving the equations for the trend line for men and women and using the result to accurately predict cross-over points (points of intersection).

At the start of lesson three pupils may identify data points they wish to discount due to extraneous factors affecting that performance. This could be done quickly on a computer based program and allow pupils to see how removing that point from the graph may immediately alter the position of the line of best fit.