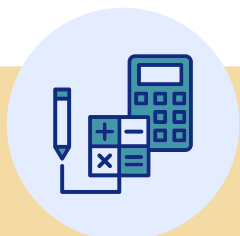


# Vicky Neale

British Mathematician and Writer

## Early Life



Born and raised in Worcester, England, “Vicky” Victoria Neale moved to a quaint village outside Winchester at age 5. She was constantly surrounded by math, with a father in field electrical engineering and mathematics, and her mother who was a secondary school math teacher.



## Education



She attended the Henry Beaufort School from age 11 to 16, where she blazed through math problems and constantly challenged herself.

Vicky headed to Peter Symonds College, where she stated “It was great just interacting with other people who didn't think I was a bit odd for enjoying mathematics”. While in college, she participated in Mathematical Olympiads and graduated with 5 A-grades in the A-level examinations.

From her high scores, Vicky was able to continue her education at the University of Cambridge, where she obtained her PhD in Additive Number Theory in 2011. In 2014, she was elected as the Whitehead Lecturer at the Mathematical Institute of the University of Oxford.

## Contributions to Field



Her contributions to the mathematical field include education and inspiration. For example, in 2015 she won the “Most Acclaimed Lecturer in Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division” from the University of Oxford Students’ Union, along with many other awards.

- Her time was dedicated to encouraging young people, especially girls, to explore the world of mathematics.
- She was the Executive Director of PROMYS Europe, where she helped secondary students from Europe experience mathematics at Oxford.
- Vicky made many appearances on TV shows and radio talk shows, presenting her knowledge and breaking down complex math problems.

## Unique Circumstances



In 2021 Vicky was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer, leading to her starting a podcast about mathematics and cancer. During the process, she discovered how the mathematical community could contribute to cancer research.

Shortly after, she wrote on her website “I will become the President of the Mathematical Association in 2024-2025”. However, she didn't live long enough to fulfill her dream.

On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, Vicky passed away from cancer. Her contributions to the mathematical field will forever be remembered for future generations.

## Fun Facts



- Vicky was also an author, and published multiple books including one titled “Why Study Mathematics?”
- Some of Vicky's hobbies include Arts & Crafts, specifically crocheting and knitting- she created scarf illustrating the distribution of prime numbers!



Scarf depicting the distribution of prime numbers.

“I am deeply honoured to be following in the footsteps of so many eminent people.”