

*Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic
Primary School
St Luke Academies Trust*



Mathematics Policy

Adopted by Governors: January 2017

Review date: January 2019

Mathematics Policy

General Aims

Mathematics is planned and delivered to all pupils across the EYFS, KS1 and KS2. It offers a broad foundation of mathematical experiences designed to provide our pupils with the understanding, skills and knowledge needed to deal with everyday situations and experiences.

We aim to ensure that all children at Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic Primary School have appropriate experience of a broad and balanced mathematics curriculum based on the National Curriculum 2014.

Thus, our children will become fluent in the fundamentals of mathematics, developing secure conceptual understanding and be able to apply their mathematical knowledge and skills to solve problems and develop mathematical reasoning.

We aim to encourage a positive attitude to Mathematics by:-

- Fostering an early and continuing enthusiasm for Mathematics.
- Ensuring that learning is introduced in a way that creates interest and motivation, so that the children can gain pleasure and enjoyment.
- Helping children to see purpose and relevance in their learning.
- Encouraging the children to achieve a breadth of Mathematical knowledge, skills and understanding, which they are able to apply to real life situations.
- Helping the children at all levels of attainment to have confidence in their own abilities.
- Encouraging the children to be resilient and so enable a sense of personal pride in their achievements.

We believe Mathematics is an important element of communication. It can be used to describe, illustrate, interpret, predict and explain. It provides a way of understanding much of what is in and happens within the world around us. It is interesting, challenging, creative and enjoyable.

Mathematical Language

Children are encouraged to “Talk for Maths” using speaking and listening skills and are taught and provided with opportunities to use the correct mathematical language and notation to discuss their mathematics and explain their thinking. Children must be assisted in making their thinking clear to themselves as well as others, and teachers will ensure that pupils build secure foundations by using discussion to probe and remedy their misconceptions.

There is a consistent use by staff of correct mathematical language, to be found in the Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic Primary Calculations Policy document.

The Organisation of Mathematics

Maths is taught by the class teacher and other adults:

- To individual pupils, referring to IEPs when appropriate
- In small groups of similar ability
- To whole class introducing new concepts and reinforcing previous work
- In cross curricular work

From Year 1 onwards, all pupils will have a daily dedicated mathematics lesson. Within the lesson there will be a good balance between whole-class work, group teaching and individual practice. Teachers will use their professional judgement to determine the activities, timing and organisation of each part of the lesson to suit its objectives. There will therefore be considerable variety and creativity on different days.

Intervention programmes are used to support children with identified needs. These are organised and their impact monitored by the Inclusion Manager.

Planning, Assessment and Record Keeping

The National Curriculum 2014 provides the programmes of study to be covered with ideas on how to deliver them and what the children need to achieve. Teachers will use a variety of references and resources to support and produce their weekly plans. Planning between parallel classes shows parity of learning intentions.

Teaching and learning activities will include the use of ICT to support the teaching of the identified learning objectives. Our teachers will use their judgement about when ICT tools should be used to enhance teaching and learning.

Assessment

Marking pupils' work, against the learning intentions is an integral part of every lesson and findings are noted on planning and reflected in subsequent planning.

Feedback to pupils is timely ensuring every opportunity is utilised to move learning forwards and ensure pupils make progress.

End of key stage SATs are completed in years 2 and 6. These are analysed for strengths and areas of developments.

Mathematical development in the Foundation Stage is currently assessed using the Phases of Development.

Progression is informed by staff knowledge and understanding of the expectations contained in the programmes of study within the National Curriculum. 'Moderation' is an integral part of our assessment process and a programme for moderation is highlighted within the school's monitoring and evaluation programme.

Approach to Calculation

Mental mathematics

Mental methods will be emphasised from an early age. Children will be directly taught and provided with regular opportunities to develop the different skills involved. Children are taught using modelling by the class teacher and practical and visual materials. These skills include:-

- remembering number facts
- using known facts to work out new facts
- developing a repertoire of mental strategies
- solving problems

The aim will be to develop an approach in which mental methods are always considered first.

Written Work

Written recordings will be used to:-

- informally support a mental calculation
- develop the skill of explaining the method used
- help someone else follow the method or assess the work
- practise writing and using the correct symbols and notation
- help remember or practise the recall of number facts
- carry out the working of a standard written method of calculation

The move from informal to standard written methods will occur in line with the expectations set within the National Curriculum.

Mathematics across the Curriculum

Opportunities will be used to draw mathematical experiences out of a range of activities in other subjects to provide opportunities to apply and use mathematics in real life contexts. Mathematics will also contribute to other subjects in practical ways.

Resources

Each class is separately resourced with basic materials and particular equipment for age specific year groups.

Teachers will use resources to:-

- Demonstrate or model an idea, an operation or method of calculation e.g. a number line, large arrow cards, counting stick.
- Enable children to use a calculation strategy or method that they couldn't do without help; e.g. individual number grids or lines, counters, fingers.
- Provide a context for the application and practise of mental calculation strategies and number skills e.g. dice, 0-10 number cards, number games, coins.

Transition from FS – KS1 – KS2

Children currently transfer from FS to KS1 with their end of FS profile. This is used to assess the children and ability group them for maths. Those children who are identified as needing more support with their maths learning and have not yet met the ELGs have the opportunity to participate in planned intervention programmes in order to enable pupils to meet the ELGs in maths.

Children transfer from KS1 to KS2 with SATs data available and teacher assessments.

Transition to Key Stage Three

Continuity and progression in Mathematics is ensured by:-

- Transfer of SATs Data
- Personal visits by staff from local secondary schools to Year 6.

Homework/Parental Involvement

Opportunities will be provided for children to practise and consolidate their skills and knowledge, and to develop and extend their techniques and strategies, and to prepare for their future learning through out-of-class activities or homework. This may not always be written work, and it is aimed that it will be set on a weekly basis. The activities will be short and focused. It will be

varied, interesting and fun so that the children are motivated, it stimulates their learning and fosters different study skills. Whatever the nature of the work it is aimed that verbal feedback will always be given.

Parent workshops are offered periodically to assist parents with knowledge and skills. A curriculum letter is also given to all parents at the start of each new academic year, setting out end of year expectations. Information is also available on our school website.

Management

The Headteacher, SLT, the Maths Subject Leader and school governors will observe, evaluate and keep records of Mathematics lessons to ensure consistency, progression and high standards.

The roles and responsibilities of the Maths Subject Leader are to:-

1. Keep the Headteacher, Governors and staff trained, informed and updated on current initiatives and provide INSET where appropriate.
2. Attend training provided by County and/or external agencies to keep abreast of current issues.
3. Monitor and support the teaching and learning of mathematics throughout the school which may include: lesson observations, work sampling, curricular target setting and liaising with the Assessment Co-ordinator and SLT to track pupil progress from year to year.
4. Carry out an audit of resources and purchase new stock where needed.
5. Work with the Headteacher and other members of staff to provide training and support for teaching assistants.
6. Monitor the impact of intervention programmes and discuss these with the Inclusion Manager to gain evaluations.
7. To monitor the quality of teaching and learning of Mathematics across the school.
8. To use the data analysis to determine the strengths and weaknesses within Mathematics across the school.
9. To use data available to target areas of weakness through planning and appropriate intervention across the school.
10. To inform SLT of the targets set and attainment within Mathematics.

This policy will be reviewed every two years.