

Introduction

The aim of this leaflet is to provide you with information about Beyond SEAL maths and to allow you to support your child.

SEAL stands for **S**tages of **E**arly **A**rithmetical **L**earning.

Beyond SEAL is an approach designed to provide pupils with a range of strategies which they can use to tackle increasingly more complex calculations.

For some pupils, tackling calculations using formal written methods can be confusing and can lead to a negative mind set towards numeracy and maths. Beyond Seal aims to break down these barriers, exploring options which allow pupils to experience the calculation with concrete materials, visual representations and eventually, more formal approaches.

Pupils therefore develop their confidence with numbers because they are able to break them down and use parts of the numbers in different ways. As and when pupils are ready, they can progress from the concrete and visual to the more efficient, formal written methods.

Beyond SEAL in the classroom

Children will mostly work in small groups and will work together to solve problems, which will help them, devise their own strategies for learning. These will be discussed through a Number Talk process to ensure numeracy is in the context of real life experiences.

An active learning approach is taken when using Beyond SEAL materials.

Strategies and materials explored include:

- Blank number lines
- Partitioning (splitting bigger numbers)
- Bar Modelling (picture representations of concepts)
- Rounding and estimating
- Number/calculation pictures
- Numicon and Dien's Materials (units, tens and hundreds)
- Double sided counters

At Home

- Involve children in strategy games.
- Modelling budgets and finances.
- Discussing rich, real life contexts.
- Model 'stuck' strategies and discuss alternatives.
- Using arrays to support the understanding of complex multiplication.
- Encourage a growth mind set😊!



Beyond SEAL

A Guide for Parents

Stage 4-7