



FALLIN PRIMARY NUMERACY AND MATHEMATICS POLICY

“Mathematics is important in our every day life, allowing us to make sense of the world around us and to manage our lives. Using mathematics enables us to model real-life situations and make connections and informed predictions. It equips us with the skills we need to interpret and analyse information, simplify and solve problems, assess risk and make informed decisions.”

“All teachers have responsibility for promoting the development of numeracy. With an increased emphasis upon numeracy for all young people, teachers will need to plan to revisit and consolidate numeracy skills throughout schooling.”

Building the Curriculum 1

Aims & Objectives

Fallin Primary strives to ensure that all children develop to a high level of mathematical skill through their learning in maths and across the curriculum. We believe that numeracy across learning is the responsibility of all staff.

Importantly we recognise that learning in numeracy and maths will enable our children to:

- Develop the confidence and competence in using number which will allow them to solve problems, analyse information and make informed decisions based on calculations.
- Engage with more abstract mathematic concepts and develop more important new kinds of thinking.
- Understand the application of mathematics, its impact on our society past and present, and its potential for the future.
- Develop essential numeracy skills which will allow them to participate fully in society
- Establish firm foundations for further specialist learning
- Understand that successful independent living requires financial awareness, and effective money management
- Interpret numerical information appropriately and use it to draw conclusions, assess risk, and make reasoned evaluations and informed decisions
- Apply skills and understanding creatively and logically to solve problems, within a variety of contexts
- Appreciate how the imaginative and effective use of technologies can enhance the development of skills and concepts.

Developing our children’s numeracy and maths

We recognise that being numerate will help our children to function responsibly in everyday life and contribute effectively to society. It will increase their opportunities within the world of work and establish foundations which can be built upon through lifelong learning.

At Fallin Primary we believe that numeracy is not only a subset of mathematics; it is also a life skill which permeates and supports all areas of learning, empowering our children to access the wider curriculum.

Having well-developed numeracy skills will allow our children to be more confident in social settings and enhance enjoyment in a large number of leisure activities. For these and many other reasons, we will ensure that the numeracy skills developed from early levels and beyond are revisited and refreshed throughout schooling and into lifelong learning.

Achieving effective learning and teaching in numeracy and maths

Through continually evaluating what we teach and how our children learn in numeracy and maths, Fallin Primary is committed to stimulating the interest of children and promoting creativity and ingenuity by supporting and delivering a variety of learning experiences that include:

- active learning and planned, purposeful play
- development of problem-solving capabilities
- developing mental agility
- frequently asking children to explain their thinking
- use of relevant contexts and experiences, familiar to children and young people
- using technology in appropriate and effective ways
- building on the principles of Assessment is for Learning, including understanding the purpose and relevance of the activities
- both collaborative and independent learning
- making frequent links across the curriculum, so that concepts and skills are developed further by being applied in different, relevant contexts
- promoting an interest and enthusiasm for numeracy.

We plan to establish and consolidate children's fundamental skills using imaginative, interactive approaches that reinforce a sound understanding of number. Through such approaches they will grow in confidence in recall and use of number bonds and multiplication facts, in their understanding of place-value, and in the application of mental strategies. All our staff will reinforce these skills continually throughout the education of each child and young person.

Pace and Challenge in numeracy and maths

In Fallin Primary, we will effectively develop numeracy and maths through the cumulative growth in children's understanding of key concepts and the application of their skills in new contexts.

In ensuring appropriate pace and challenge for all our learners we will:

- Collaborate with colleagues in relation to progression to ensure a shared understanding of expectations of standards as well as effective learning and teaching within numeracy.
- Wherever possible include rich numeracy experiences as part of children's day-to-day learning and teaching programmes which will include: estimating, measuring, using and managing time, carrying out money calculations, reading information from charts and tables or explaining consequences of actions?

- Ensure that our children are challenged at an appropriate level and are given the opportunity to progress at a suitably aspirational pace.
- Provide daily practice for all learners in mental maths to increase agility

Numeracy across learning

Fallin Primary is committed to develop children's numeracy skills through their learning across the curriculum. The strategies we build and deliver will be built upon a shared understanding amongst staff of how children progress in numeracy. This will be linked with the sharing of best practice across and between stages and in continually looking to create opportunities to develop and reinforce numeracy skills across the curriculum and within teaching activities.

Assessment in numeracy and maths

In Fallin Primary, assessment will focus on how well children can work with numbers and data and how well they can use them in their learning and lives. We will gather evidence of progress as part of day-to-day learning both in mathematics classes and across the curriculum. The use of specific assessment tasks will be important in assessing progress at key points of learning. The assessment of children's learning will be shaped/informed by the following:

- Can children explain their thinking to show their understanding of number processes and concepts?
- Are they developing securely the full range of the skills and attributes set out within the experiences and outcomes?
- Can they draw on skills and concepts learned previously?
- As they tackle problems in unfamiliar contexts, can they confidently identify which skills and concepts are relevant to the problem?
- Can they then apply their skills accurately when working independently and with others, and can they then evaluate their solutions?
- Are they developing their understanding of personal finance?
- Can they evaluate data to make informed decisions?
- Are they developing the capacity to engage with and complete tasks and assignments?

Assessment of numeracy across learning, within and outside the classroom, offers children opportunities to practise and extend their skills, for example within enterprise activities, social studies, technologies and science.