



David Livingstone Memorial Primary School
Numeracy and Mathematics Position Statement
August 2023

Rationale and Aims

Numeracy and Mathematics is one of 8 curriculum areas within Curriculum for Excellence and it is used by children to access all aspects of the curriculum. Numeracy is a skill for learning, life and work. Being numerate involves developing an ability and confidence in using numbers that allow us to function responsibly and contribute effectively to society. Good numeracy skills are necessary for successful learning and are essential for life after school.

“Being numerate helps us to function responsibly in everyday life and contribute effectively to society. It increases our opportunities within the world of work and establishes foundations which can be built upon through lifelong learning. Numeracy is not only a subset of mathematics; it is also a life skill which permeates and supports all areas of learning, allowing young people access to the wider curriculum.”
(Curriculum for Excellence, Principles and Practice: Numeracy Across Learning)

Learning and Teaching Approaches

As Numeracy is progressively developed across learning, there will be opportunities for children to experience breadth, depth and challenge through a variety of approaches, including:

- The creation of a challenging learning environment where learners feel valued, supported and confident.
- The use of interactive approaches to promote active learning.
- The development of mental agility using Big Maths and Number Talks.
- The promotion of Assessment For Learning: the sharing of learning intentions and success criteria, effective questioning and feedback that informs the next steps in learning.
- The opportunity for learners to explain their thinking.
- The effective use of technology to support learning.
- The opportunity for learners to make links across the curriculum so that concepts and skills are being further developed when applied in different contexts.

Structure of an effective Numeracy and Mathematics lesson.

Delivering high quality Numeracy and Mathematics learning experiences in a well-structured and consistent manner, will go a long way in ensuring excellence and equity for our children and young people.

By implementing the following structure for all Numeracy and Mathematics learning experiences, we ensure delivery of a high standard. (Framework for Numeracy and Mathematics: SLC Education Resources)

1. Interactive Mental Number Session using Big Maths or Number Talks (10/15mins everyday)
2. Sharing of Learning Intentions
3. Modelling of concepts and skill development
4. Differentiated direct teaching
5. Co-construction of Success Criteria
6. Learner activities
7. Assessment
8. Plenary session

Pupils

All learners will:

- Access experiences which provide opportunities to develop confidence in applying Numeracy skills, to understand and solve problems, carry out number processes, access and interpret information, and identify possibilities.
- Develop mental agility to increase confidence in a range of Numeracy concepts.
- Engage in investigative, collaborative and independent approaches to learning.
- Experience learning and teaching approaches that stimulate, challenge and meet individual needs.
- Access appropriate resources and technologies which enhance learning opportunities in Numeracy and Mathematics.

Assessment, recording and reporting

At David Livingstone Memorial Primary staff recognise the importance of assessment in providing a clear picture of each child's progress in order to plan for the next steps in their learning. Assessments may be formative or summative. Summative baseline assessments are carried out annually in May.

Progress will also be identified by children's competence and confidence in applying mathematical concepts across the curriculum, in their daily lives and in their pathway towards the world of work.

Parents/ Carers

Parents and carers are encouraged to take an active role in their child's learning in Numeracy and Mathematics. We advise weekly practice of number bonds and multiplication facts through use of 'Learn-it' flashcards and promote the use of online resources, such as Topmarks and Sumdog.