

How we teach Maths at Kenningtons Primary Academy

“Without Mathematics there’s nothing you can do. Everything around you is mathematics. Everything around you is numbers.” Shakuntala Devi

What do Mathematicians do?

- Have a good knowledge of number and the relationships between numbers
- Solve real-world problems by breaking them down into smaller parts
- Identify patterns
- Work systematically
- Demonstrate accuracy
- Use specific mathematical vocabulary
- Explain and present solutions clearly

Intent

At Kenningtons we are competent mathematicians. We learn about number, measure and geometry as outlined in the National Curriculum. In the EYFS, we use the statutory framework area of learning ‘Mathematics.’

Knowledge:

In all areas of mathematics, our teachers use a process of concrete, pictorial and abstract. This ensures that we have strong conceptual understanding. My teacher uses varied fluency so that we can demonstrate our secure knowledge.

Skills:

Once our concepts are secure, we apply our knowledge to problem solving and reasoning.

Implementation

- Maths is taught four times per week as a discrete subject
- In the EYFS, it is taught three times per week in the form of number and numerical patterns. The skills learned are then incorporated into continuous provision activities
- Each year, we begin our learning with place value and the four operations as this gives us a better chance of tackling the other mathematical areas.
- Before we start a unit of work, our teachers check our prior knowledge using a pre-learning check. This ensures that our knowledge and skills from the previous year is secure.
- In order to become competent mathematicians, once we have acquired the basic skills, we rehearse the skill in a variety of ways: we call this varied fluency. We then have opportunities to use the skill within reasoning and problem solving.
- Twice a week, we start our lesson with a Quick 5. This is five questions about topics we have already covered; revisiting learning helps us to remember.
- At the end of each unit, we complete a post teach assessment to demonstrate the progress we have made.
- The skills and knowledge we need to acquire have been clearly mapped so that there is progression; I can do more today than I did yesterday
- Our teachers check our understanding through questioning, observation, recording and learning review weeks.
- In our classroom, we all have a maths working wall. A helpdesk is available with the resources we need to support our learning.
- From year 2, we all have access to Timestable Rockstars. This helps us to secure our knowledge of the timestable facts.
- Maths coaches support children at lunchtime, where pupils are able to access Timetable Rockstars if they haven’t been able to at home

Impact

We will demonstrate our learning within the maths curriculum through books, post-teaches, learning review week, displays, in our conversations with teachers and by the vocabulary we use.