



Numeracy Policy

At The Acorns School we place an extremely high value on the delivery of numeracy for all our pupils. Being numerate is essential for all pupils enabling them to access several key areas of the curriculum, and for day-to-day life in the world outside school. Strong numeracy skills are key to securing the best college places and workplace opportunities.

Numeracy is a life skill. Being numerate goes beyond simply 'doing maths'; it means having the confidence and competence to use numbers and think mathematically in everyday life.

Here are some examples of what pupils will need in terms of numeracy:

- Being able to manage family budgets – credit cards, offers at supermarkets etc.
- Being able to estimate – in all kinds of situations, e.g. journey speed, time and distance, roughly how much a bill will be or your expected bank balance at the end of the month.
- Being able to critically assess statistics used by advertisers or politicians.

In order to give our pupils the best possible chances to develop strong numeracy skills we aim to develop and improve standards of numeracy through providing models and opportunities for pupils to practise using number in a range of lessons; not just mathematics.

Each classroom has numeracy displays which outline the basic skills in addition, subtraction and telling the time.

In lessons

Teachers will plan to develop and improve standards of numeracy through providing good models and opportunities for pupils to practise their skills. This could be through a range of activities including retrieving information from graphs and charts, putting events in chronological order, using timetables to plan journeys, costing holidays and other events, measuring ingredients and materials, making scale models, using co-ordinates etc. Pupils will be expected and encouraged to use a range of mental mathematics strategies to answer simple questions outside of mathematics lessons.

Reviewed February 2026 S Stephenson