



Newton Solney Church of England (Aided) Infant School

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Mathematics Policy

Introduction

Mathematics, as one of the core areas of the National Curriculum 2014, has a high profile. It is necessary, therefore, to provide the children with a thorough grounding in order to enable them to apply their acquired skills and knowledge confidently and independently.

Our aims in teaching Mathematics

- to ensure the children develop a sound understanding and achieve competence in the specified areas of Foundation Stage and KS1 of the National Curriculum 2014
- to enable the children to develop an awareness of mathematical skills and concepts and their relevance in the world around us
- to encourage the children to develop an enquiring mind and to have the ability to investigate problems
- to teach children the necessary mathematical language which will allow them to understand and communicate ideas
- to promote a positive attitude to Mathematics, so that enjoyment and enthusiasm will lead to motivation
- to encourage the children to take a pride in the presentation of their work, so that their thoughts and ideas are conveyed in a clear, logical way

The teaching of Mathematics

Mathematics is taught on a daily basis in line with the National Curriculum 2014. Children in years 1 and 2 are taught via a daily dedicated 45 minutes session, whereas pupils in the Reception class commence with a more flexible approach.

The National Curriculum 2014 forms the basis of our scheme of work, alongside teachers' own resources. Where possible cross-curricular links are established eg Science, PE, Geography, Art and ICT.

Teaching Methods

In line with the National Curriculum 2014 the focus is on direct interactive teaching. There is a strong emphasis on oral and practical work, particularly in the early stages, in order to promote sound understanding. We have high expectations and aim for lessons to be well structured and to maintain good pace. The objectives of each lesson are clearly explained to children.

Oral/Mental Starter

- lasts for 5 - 10 minutes
- focuses on activities such as counting, quick recall of number facts, applying known number facts to related calculations and explaining strategies
- involves all children through carefully differentiated open and closed questioning

Main Activity

- introduces a new topic or consolidates and extends previous work
- involves whole class in a directed teaching session
- introduces the required vocabulary for the topic
- uses a variety of resources and aids to clarify and explain
- ensure that all pupils are fully supported
- progresses to group/pair/individual tasks to consolidate the day's topic

Plenary Session

- reviews and summarises what has been taught
- identifies misunderstandings
- makes links to other work
- allows children to present and explain work
- reminds pupils of day's objectives

Homework

- may be given occasionally on an informal basis
- Is introduced to Year 2 on a regular basis from the Spring Term 3

Resources

Each class stores its own set of Maths games. Most of our mathematics equipment, however, is kept centrally in clearly labelled storage boxes in the Green room. All classes have their own computers and a variety of numeracy programs.

Staff books, information and photo-copiable worksheets are available in the teacher's section of the Maths resource area in Robins Class.

Equal Opportunities

Every effort is made to ensure Mathematics activities and investigations are equally interesting and accessible for all. Our aim is to meet the needs of all pupils.

Children of all abilities benefit from the study of Mathematics. Those with special needs receive the appropriate support and resources required. More challenging work is provided for the more able.

Assessment

Please see ARRA policy.

Role of the Maths Co-ordinator

Heidi Elks as Maths co-ordinator encourages and supports colleagues in their teaching of Maths. She attends relevant courses and passes on necessary information. She ensures that the policy is implemented used and reviewed and that the required Maths resources are provided. Lessons are monitored and evaluated each year by the co-ordinator.

Policy Review

This policy was reviewed and amended on by staff in April 2015 and approved by the governors Teaching and Learning Committee in May 2015.

Heidi Elks