

Maths Intent

Maths is a skill we use on a daily basis and is an essential part of everyday life. Therefore, at Hope House School, mathematics forms an important part of our broad and balanced curriculum where we endeavour to ensure that children develop an enjoyment and enthusiasm for maths that will empower them in future life. We believe that unlocking mathematical fluency is an essential life skill for all learners and is a pre-requisite to being able to reason and solve problems mathematically. Our aim is to develop a positive culture of understanding, confidence and competence in maths that produces strong, secure learning. As a school, we recognise that the key to unlocking the potential in our children is through the development of basic mathematical skills and the understanding of mathematical concepts. We therefore place great emphasis on the use of concrete resources and pictorial representations at all ages, to enable children to fully understand the concepts and principals, when presented with abstract calculations and questions.

Our Maths curriculum provides breadth and balance, is relevant and engaging and is differentiated to match the needs and abilities of all our children to ensure that all pupils are able to achieve. As a school, we believe in the importance of following the concrete-pictorial-approach to develop a solid understanding of mathematical concepts which can be applied in a variety of contexts through reasoning and problem-solving challenges. Children receive 5 45-minute maths lessons each week. As a school we follow White Rose Maths schemes of work from EYFS through to Year 11 which uses 'small steps to break down the teaching sequence into small chunks.

From Year 9 onwards, pupils also work towards external assessment in the form of Functional Skills qualifications. Functional Skills provides assessment of pupils' knowledge as well as their ability to apply this in different contexts. It provides a foundation for progression into employment or further education and develop skills for everyday life. Entry Levels allows pupils to demonstrate an understanding of the basics of mathematical skills appropriate to the level, and the ability to apply mathematical thinking to solve simple problems in familiar situations whilst Level 1 and Level 2 provides pupils with a qualification for work, study and life. Level 1 and 2 are equivalent to lower GCSE grades.