



The Mathematics Curriculum at Oakwood

Further information: mathematics in the classroom

Children are taught generalisations and patterns within areas of maths rather than just a process to find an answer. A 'ping-pong' style of teaching, where ideas and activities move regularly between the teacher and learners and back again, enables the children to practice at each stage of the learning sequence, drawing out questions and 'sticking points' which adults are able to address 'on the spot'. Precise mathematical vocabulary is taught from the Early Years to Year 6 and children are encouraged to use full sentences to explain their thinking. Concepts are presented through a variety of representations to expose the maths and so ensure deeper understanding. Such presentations might be concrete (working with physical objects and real-life contexts), pictorial (use of pictures and diagrams) and abstract (numbers and symbols)

Purposefully presenting children with mistakes and 'non-examples' also encourages them to use this mathematical vocabulary to identify why the examples given do not work, further deepening their understanding of the concept.

In Early Years (Reception) mathematics is taught both as a discrete lesson and integrated into many different areas of the curriculum. Activities are planned and developed for children to access independently, or with an adult, during child-initiated learning times. This gives children the opportunity to practice concepts taught through play and encourages them to make their own discoveries about maths in the world around them.

In years 1-6, Mathematics is taught as a daily discrete lesson and further shorter fluency sessions throughout the week ensure key 'facts' such as number bonds, tables etc. are retained. Short sharp recap tasks are used at the start of each lesson aims to ensure the retention of past learning.

Mathematics is reinforced across the curriculum and key mathematical learning is applied in other subjects such as science and geography.

The curriculum is further enhanced and enriched by involvement in inter-school Maths Challenge competitions and National Initiatives run by the Primary Mathematics Associations and other bodies.