

Saint Joseph's Catholic Voluntary Academy

How we teach Maths at Saint Joseph's

A Lesson Handbook: Guidance and Resources for Teaching Staff

	Intent:
	At St Joseph's, our intention is to provide all children with full access to a broad and ambitious mathematics curriculum, enabling them to achieve confidence and competence in mathematical fluency, reasoning, and problem-solving. We want all pupils to enjoy Maths and have a growing belief in their abilities.
	Our approach aims for pupils to acquire a deep, long-term, secure and adaptable understanding of the subject. The mathematics curriculum at St Joseph's is carefully designed to build sequentially in small steps which allow children to make connections to prior learning. Each unit and each year group have defined endpoints that all children are expected to achieve which is in line with the National Curriculum and results in increasing proportions of pupils attaining the age-related-expectation or better whilst making good progress.
	The phrase 'teaching for mastery' describes the elements of classroom practice and school organisation that combine to give pupils the best chances of mastering maths. For further details on <u>the essence of mathematics teaching for mastery, see this</u> <u>document from the NCETM</u> .
	Implementation:
	The Five Big Ideas underpin teaching for mastery in our school.
Vision: Intention, Implementation, Impact	Our lesson planning begins with what we want our pupils to think and notice, rather than what we want them to do.
	We base our lessons on a maths mastery scheme called " <i>Maths - No Problem!</i> " We researched and trialled various approaches before choosing this system. We like it because it is child-centred and fun to teach, as well as having been assessed by the DfE as a high-quality textbook to support teaching for mastery. Importantly, we find it to be a very inclusive approach where all children achieve.
	We embed mathematical thinking through our engaging wider curriculum subjects to ensure concepts and procedures can be applied to real-life situations.
	Impact:
	Children are enthusiastic about learning and can apply their mathematical knowledge and skills to a range of problems, including those in a real-life context.
	Teachers have high standards of the teaching of the mathematics curriculum: this is evident in books, working walls and in lessons.
	Mathematical language is used consistently and is explicitly taught throughout the structure of Maths lessons.
	Teachers assess regularly and gaps in understanding are addressed systematically to prevent pupils falling behind.

	Use the Maths No Problem! (MNP) overviews to help you to populate long and medium-term plans.				
Medium Term Planning: Steps in books	White Space: Please bear the following in mind, taken from an email from MNP:				
	"Quick maths lesson: the number of MNP lessons is less than the number of available teaching days, especially in Years 1 and 2. Why?				
	It's because the MNP approach is designed to include white space .				
	White space is a big help when it comes to lesson planning. When you anticipate your pupils will struggle with a concept, you can slow down and cover the lesson over two days.				
	More white space in Years 1 and 2 helps pupils build a strong foundation of understanding. It decreases as your learners progress through primary school and have prior knowledge to build upon.				
	We've heard from teachers time and time again that knowing about the concept of white space is <i>life-changing.</i> "				
	Here's what it should look like for each year group:				
	Year	Lessons	White Space Days	White Space %	
	1	85	110	56%	
	2	123	72	37%	
	3	178	17	9%	
	4	151	44	23%	
	5	140	55	23%	
	6	141	54	28%	
	At the core of the mastery approach is the belief that the vast majority of children can learn the same maths at the same time, without some pupils falling behind while others race ahead. This requires carefully structured planning, thoughtful support and effective assessment for learning. Differentiation is provided through additional support or questioning, and ideas for what this may look like included by MNP on the Teacher Hub for each lesson, using the Differentiation button at the top of the page.				
Lesson Approach / Weekly Planning Differentiation	Inside this Guide 😶 Lesson Approach		Assessment Differentiation		
	To begin this lesson, show pupils the li correct. How can we check? What stra time to begin working on the problem. definitely possible because 100 ten the How can we represent this to check? F discs to choose from.	n Focus task and ask them if Emma is stegies can we use? Allow them some Tell them your friend says that it is ousands make 10 000 000. Is this true? rrovide pupils with various number	Reading and Writing Numbers to 10 Million	Lesson 1	
	See also <i>Digging Deeper</i> later in this handbook.				
	For each lesson, the copied, pasted and teaching the lesson questions.	e Lesson Approach se L <i>amended as require</i> has access to the det	ction of the MNP Teach d onto a slide. This ens cailed plan for the sessi	er Hub should be ures that whoever is on, including any key	



	What do we use a ruler for?
Mastering Number (Rec/KS1)	In KS1, there is 10-15 minutes at the start of every Maths lesson which we dedicate to Mastering Number. We have named this "Reken'roll time". This focuses on developing number sense and fluency, and we use this instead of a recap. This time allows children to spot patterns and use the Rekenreks to explore numbers through composition, facts, arithmetic, counting, cardinality, ordinality
	and comparison. In Reception, this is seen in provision.
Times tables	 Times tables is a key priority at St Joseph's. Therefore, we have implemented a number of strategies to ensure that times tables are taught effectively across the school. As soon as children come in from the Daily Mile it will be check-ins, register and timed TTRockstars sheet with music (5 minutes) every day before the start of lessons. At the start of every Maths lesson everyone should be following the Long Term Plan for times tables (Times table long term plan 2022.docx) chanting, using counting stick to practices times tables, singing times tables, rolling numbers times tables. We have our current times table focus on the classroom door so that adults who enter the room can ask a times table question. Y4 will have weekly practice of the MTC (https://urbrainy.com/mtc/test - link also shared with parents regularly on Dojo) On our weekly homework, there is a times table focus and a TTRS sheet is sent out along with their standard homework for the week.
Key Vocabulary	We have an overview of vocabulary taught for each year group. Each topic vocabulary is included in the MNP Teacher Hub and matches with the overviews. This should be added to the working wall and displayed on the lesson slides.
EXPLORE Maths Journal under heading EXPLORE . 20 - 30mins	The Explore section should give pupils an opportunity to work collaboratively to examine a problem. This exploration is a very important aspect of the approach, and should not be rushed.
The 'Mastering' resources in the textbook should also be used to inform planning at this stage.	The Explore should be displayed on the board alongside the key questions identified at the planning stage. It may also be shown in the pupil textbook. Usually, children will be provided with concrete resources to help them to explore the problem, and pictorial representations used to support understanding.

	Pupils work with their partner to explore and solve the problem. If they find a solution, they may attempt to find a different way of tackling the problem.
	The teacher's role within this session is to scaffold the learning with carefully chosen questions. The EXPLORE may need to be broken down into smaller steps, with the teacher posing a question that guides the pupils to make their own discoveries.
	Do not worry about efficiency at this stage! The scheme is structured in such a way as to eventually lead to efficient methods, but exposing the underlying mechanics of the maths is important here.
	<u>Talking is key</u> : talk amongst pupils is critical, allowing them to negotiate with each other and challenge their ideas. <i>This process works best with a peer; it rarely happens with a teacher as they are an authority figure.</i>
	Questioning: Do not ask questions to get an answer. Ask questions to check. "Are you sure?" "Is that right?"
	When planning the EXPLORE, think critically about how to present the problem. Telling a story is often an engaging way. <i>Is a prior step required to help your class to access the learning?</i>
	The teacher should rarely explain. Instead, you should add structure to pupil's responses, or present them in a more organised or polished form, using the Flip Chart so that models and methods can remain visible during the rest of the lesson, and then be displayed on the Working Wall.
	Supplementary tasks or questions may be planned (guidance in the Mastering section) using variation to build upon the original Explore question(s).
	A Digging Deeper question <i>may</i> be planned for this stage of the lesson, but do not encourage children to rush on to it.
	Practice is for consolidation and fluency, <u>not</u> learning.
Guided Practice Maths Journal 10 -20 mins	When planning the lesson, it is <i>essential to look ahead to Guided Practice and the</i> <i>Independent</i> task. This is to ensure that you have fully prepared children for the types of question which many be presented to them in these sections of the lesson.
	During Guided Practice, pupils can work with their partner (mixed ability) to solve similar problems which are slightly different each time (variation, not repetition).
	Guided Practice should be followed by a mini-plenary – use this as an opportunity to address and critique different methods.
	A Digging Deeper Question may be planned for this stage of the lesson.
	This will probably be the shortest portion of the lesson, where children work independently to solve 3 sets of similar problems which increase in difficulty.
Independent Practice MNP Workbook 10 mins	It may not be necessary for a pupil to complete all of the Workbook questions in order to meet the minimum expectation of the lesson (refer to MNP Teacher Hub for clarity on the minimum expectation), but they should work quickly and quietly to put into practice the learning that has taken place.
	A Digging Deeper question linked to the learning objective <i>should</i> be planned for any children who finish the Independent Practice before the end of the lesson.

	Assessment for learning
Assessment	 Questions on the worksheets are carefully constructed to assess: 1. Can children correctly perform the skill? 2. Do children have the ability to take perspective / perform the skill in a certain way? For this, children need to be able to comprehend. Note: Advanced learners should not usually be introduced to the worksheet early as they too need time to learn things meaningfully. Characterising Learners: Working Towards: making a lot of mistakes, require a lot of teacher directed questions to develop their conceptual understanding. At National: Meeting the minimum expectation for each lesson. Above: These learners should access planned opportunities to dig deeper. Characteristics of Greater Depth (Above) Learners: 1. They are always able to give you a physical model – e.g. add a story to / give an example of 8 x 3 – it is not just about knowing number facts.
	 They are always able to give a visual model, e.g. a bar model. They have the ability to explain themselves orally and can think on the spot. They have the ability to record their thinking. They are able to think critically / challenge themselves!
	At St Joseph's, we ensure every student is both challenged and encouraged to reach their full potential. Our teaching embraces questioning techniques that stimulate critical thinking, urging students to delve deeper into various ideas. Feedback plays a crucial role in our approach; we focus on guiding students to reflect on their work, helping them identify areas for improvement. We strive to create a supportive environment where students feel empowered to think independently and develop their skills. Our aim is to challenge each student in a way that inspires them to continue striving for excellence in their learning journey. In this way, we foster a culture of curiosity and growth at St Joseph's.
How do we cater for all pupils?	Meeting the needs of pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) at St Joseph's involves a strategic, inclusive approach that ensures all learners can access and engage with the curriculum. Initially all teacher plan for varying need using the EEF 5 a day approach. This includes ensuring that needs are met through explicit instruction, cognitive and metacognitive strategies, scaffolding, flexible grouping and use of technology. From there, if further support is required we will adapt the task through use of scaffolding, offering alternative formats of tasks, providing multi-sensory learning opportunities and adjusting the task's complexity. Where needed we can adapt the entire curriculum through modified content, providing flexible progression routes and specialist intervention. It is these strategies that support our varied needs in St Joseph's and ensure that each SEND pupil's individual needs are met in a structured, supportive, and inclusive environment. This not only enhances access to learning but also fosters independence, confidence, and long-term achievement.

Working Walls



	• Daily arithmetic style questions that revisit prior learning. These are used as part of the recaps each day.
	3 2 6 + = 3 7 6
	5 x = 3 5
	$2 \times = 12$
	+20 = 48
	a) ? + 100 = 1,765 b) $792 \div 22$ c) 400 × 40 = d) 0.2 \div 10 = e) 3^3 + 10 =
	The 'Maths No Problem' scheme plans in opportunities within the 'Explore, 'Guided Practice' and 'Independent' workbook so that children can practise fluency throughout each lesson.
	Digging Deeper prompts provide opportunities for children to extend their understanding of a concept by thinking more deeply about it. They should not seek to move the pupil on to a new area of maths, but rather encourage them to further engage with their current learning objective, or make connections with other prior learning. Digging Deeper questions can be strategically placed throughout lessons, and should not be restricted to particular children – they are open to all. However, a teacher may wish to direct certain pupils to attempt them, based upon ongoing assessment for
Appendix iii: Digging Deeper resources	Digging Deeper Find another fraction or quotient that is equal to 0.215
	The MNP Teacher Hub offers suggestions for activities that might be suitable 'DD' tasks, and these can be found under the Differentiation tab on the lesson guide. NRich (<u>https://nrich.maths.org/</u>) remains a valuable resource for open-ended, investigative problems, alongside Deepening Understanding (<u>https://www.deepeningunderstanding.co.uk/</u>), Mr Bee Teach (<u>https://www.mrbeeteach.com/</u>) and Vocabulary Ninja (<u>https://vocabularyninja.co.uk/product-category/maths/</u>)
Appendix iv: Vocabulary	For purposes of consistency, the vocabulary used in the MNP Teacher Guides should be used in those lessons. It is <u>crucial</u> that adults model using the correct language when explaining concepts, as this is how children learn to reason and explain things for themselves.



