



Maths Overview 2023 2024

Blackminster Middle School

Intent

Here in the Maths department, our aim to bring Maths ‘alive’ through linking everyday Maths concepts to the real world, in order to stimulate our pupils’ engagement in Maths. Our intention is to enable pupils to understand how Maths is directly linked to financial literacy, developments in engineering and technology, as well as scientific understanding. We believe our pupils take pride in their learning and enjoy in applying their knowledge to solve Maths problems.

We aim to ensure that all our pupils develop their fluency in the fundamentals of Maths. To achieve this, pupils will receive frequent and varied practice with increasingly complex problems throughout the key stages. This will enable pupils to; develop their conceptual understanding, develop their ability to recall and apply knowledge, reason mathematically through discussion and apply justification and proofs to solve increasingly sophisticated problems.

Implementation

Key Stage 2

In Year 6 pupils are taught ten Maths lessons per fortnight. We use transition data from First Schools and our own initial assessments to identify all our pupils' level of understanding. This, then enables us to build upon previous knowledge and understanding, in order to both support and challenge our pupils. This also enables us to address where there are gaps in pupils learning at the earliest opportunity. We aim to then develop these skills within the classroom and through early intervention, to build their confidence and knowledge. Pupils work in mixed ability groups, which enables them to work with a variety of pupils and select their own starting point of challenge in the Maths tasks.

Throughout the year they work on the (2014) National Curriculum Programme of Study for Year 6. They will then take the KS2 National Curriculum Tests (SATs) in May. We follow the White Rose Schemes of Work and an emphasis is placed on developing key arithmetic skills through the use of Ninja maths, as well as providing opportunities to reason and problem solve.

Key Stage 3

In Years 7 & 8 pupils are taught seven Maths lessons per fortnight. Pupils continue to follow the National Curriculum for Maths (2014). Particular emphasis is placed on building pupils' reasoning and problem-solving skills. This will be achieved through actively encouraging discussion within paired and group work. Pupils will follow the KS3 Collins Maths Frameworking Scheme of Work, which links in with the exam boards and local high schools. They will have regular assessment each half term, as well as exam practice. This will enable a smooth transition as they move to the local high schools, where they will sit AQA GCSE exams.

We actively promote the use of IT in Maths, especially with its ever-increasing importance in everyday life. Our online support includes ixl Maths. Pupils are also encouraged to recognise the role and importance of Maths in everyday life.

Impact

By the end of Year 8, our aim is that pupils should be confident, resilient and equipped with the skills needed to be articulate and competent mathematicians.

The learning path in Maths enables our pupils to be engaged and curious about the subject. From the start, we help pupils to grow in confidence, ensuring positive progress is made overtime by all year groups. Developing a passion for learning and to recognise the importance of Maths in everyday life, as they take the next step into high school and beyond.

Blackminster is part of the NCETM Glow Maths Hub and we have experienced practitioners who have completed the course on Developing Teaching for Mastery programme which has been implemented into all of our classes. Our aim now is to become a nrich problem solving school, this is an exciting new initiative to help schools raise the profile of mathematical problem-solving and nurture better problem-solvers ([Become a Problem-Solving School \(maths.org\)](https://www.becomeaproblemsolvingmaths.org/))