



CURRICULUM INFORMATION

MATHEMATICS STATEMENT

At The Prince of Wales school we believe that Mathematics is an interconnected subject in which pupils need to be able to move fluently between representations of mathematical ideas. The programmes of study are, by necessity, organised into distinct domains, but pupils should make rich connections across mathematical ideas to develop fluency, mathematical reasoning and competence in solving increasingly sophisticated problems. They should also apply their mathematical knowledge to science and other subjects.

The expectation is that the majority of pupils will move through the programmes of study at broadly the same pace. However, decisions about when to progress should always be based on the security of pupils' understanding and their readiness to progress to the next stage. Pupils who grasp concepts rapidly should be challenged through being offered rich and sophisticated problems before any acceleration through new content. Those who are not sufficiently fluent with earlier material should consolidate their understanding, including through additional practice before moving on.

OUR PRINCIPLES

- Maths is enjoyable and interesting.
- Children should achieve success at every stage.
- For children to enjoy and understand maths as an abstract activity it is vital for them to experience it as a concrete, practical activity throughout the school.

The formation of concepts and the development of understanding are as important as the learning of skills and techniques.

- The so-called "basic skills" are vital: children who fail to learn these skills experience a sense of failure which must be avoided. Children cannot enjoy many activities if they have not mastered the "basic skills."
- "Basic skills" are best taught through concrete experience, use of equipment (in all year groups), real life examples and lots of revision, practice and consolidation to deepen understanding.

Much of maths is hierarchical and teaching and learning should build upon knowledge of what has come before and what will follow.

- Children learn at different rates and from different starting points upon admission to school.
- The use of number should permeate all areas of the maths curriculum. Therefore, a good grounding in the basic skills of numeracy is essential.
- The development of mental strategies is vital. Formal recording follows this.