

MATHS · ADULT REFERENCE

Whole-School Maths Progression

Pre-K to Grade 6 / Y6

How to use this progression

Pre-K & Reception (Pre-K and Kindergarten)

Strand	Focus	On track
Number sense	Counting to 10, then 20; cardinality	Counts objects accurately; knows 'how many' isn't about order
Subitising	Recognise quantities up to 5 without counting	Says '4' to a 4-dot pattern without counting
Comparison	More than / less than / equal to	Uses comparison language confidently
Shape and pattern	2D shapes; basic patterns	Names circle, square, triangle; copies AB patterns
Measure (informal)	Long / short, heavy / light, full / empty	Uses comparative language about size



Strand	Focus	On track
Number-as-quantity	Cardinal principle; one-to-one correspondence	Connects numerals to quantities

Year 1 & 2 (Grades 1-2)

Strand	Focus	On track
Number	Numbers to 100 (Y1); 1000 (Y2)	Reads, writes, orders, compares
Place value	Tens and ones (Y1); hundreds (Y2)	Y1: partition 'twenty-three' = 2 tens + 3 ones
Calculation	Number bonds to 10 (Y1); to 20 then 100 (Y2)	Y2: instant recall of bonds; emerging $\times 2$ $\times 5$ $\times 10$
Fractions	Halves, quarters of shapes; halves of numbers	Y2: half of 12 = 6
Geometry	2D and 3D shapes; symmetry (Y2)	Names common shapes; describes properties
Measure	Length, weight, capacity, time, money	Reads time to half-hour (Y1), 5-minute (Y2)
Statistics	Pictograms (Y2); tally charts	Reads and creates simple charts

Year 3 & 4 (Grades 3-4)

Strand	Focus	On track
Number	Numbers to 1000 (Y3); 10,000 (Y4)	Place value secure across larger numbers
Calculation	Formal written methods emerging (Y3); secure (Y4)	Y3: column add/sub; Y4: short multiplication and division
Times tables	3, 4, 8 (Y3); all to 12 (Y4)	Y4: passes Multiplication Tables Check
Fractions	Equivalent fractions (Y3); decimals introduced (Y4)	Y4: decimals to two places; tenths and hundredths
Geometry	Angles, perpendicular, parallel; coordinates (Y4)	Y4: plot points on first quadrant



Strand	Focus	On track
Measure	Conversions; perimeter and area	Y4: area of rectangles by counting squares
Statistics	Bar charts, line graphs	Y4: solve problems using charts

Year 5 & 6 (Grades 5-6)

Strand	Focus	On track
Number	Numbers to 10 million; negative numbers	Place value across large and decimal numbers
Calculation	Long multiplication; long division (Y6)	Multi-step word problems with mixed operations
Fractions	All four operations (Y6); mixed numbers	Y6: confident with adding/subtracting/multiplying/dividing fractions
Decimals & %	Three decimal places; percentages of amounts	Y6: convert between fractions, decimals, %
Ratio & proportion	Y6 only — recipe scaling, ratio problems	Y6: solve problems with ratios
Algebra	Y6 — find missing numbers; simple formulas	Y6: understand 'n' as unknown; solve $3n = 18$
Geometry	All four quadrants; area of triangles	Y6: angles in shapes; transformations
Statistics	Pie charts (Y6); mean	Y6: calculate mean; interpret pie charts

Common misconceptions — by year group



The fluency-reasoning balance

Maths Lead's annual progression audit

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| ■ Are all year groups covering the strands at appropriate depth? | ■ Are times tables being taught systematically across KS1 and LKS2? |
| ■ Is the calculation policy being followed consistently? | ■ Are children with gaps in earlier learning being supported? |
| ■ Are SEND children getting maths interventions that work? | ■ Is reasoning being taught explicitly, not just 'word problems'? |
| ■ Are children able to articulate their thinking? | ■ Is fluency practice happening daily in some form? |
| ■ Are manipulatives available in every classroom? | ■ Are class teachers confident across all strands? |

