

Topics last for as long as the children need to grow and embed their learning.

ALL children need a DEEP understanding of the maths they are learning.

The answer is only the beginning. Our mathematics classes are aboutlearning not performing.#NoLimits

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Mathematics at St Alban's

At St Alban's, we believe that our ambitious maths curriculum ensures that all children know and remember more. We believe that EVERYONE can achieve and enjoy learning maths.

Our curriculum is based on mastery principles where pupils acquire a deep, long term, secure and flexible understanding of maths. We intervene quickly so that ALL children are able to access the curriculum with appropriate scaffolding where appropriate. Sometimes, this involves preteaching of concepts and sometimes consolidation. We aim to fade our scaffolding so that all children can access learning. Our long-term plan is based on a blocked curriculum to ensure children develop a strong enough understanding of the maths that has been taught so that they are able to move on to more advanced material. Underpinning this, is planned spaced retrieval which consists of 'Can I Still?' activities and deliberate practice. Using the Long-Term plan will ensure this is not left to chance. 'Can I still?' activities include the generative activities of brain downloads, multi-choice questions, quizzes, summarizing, mapping, drawing and imagining.

We remember what we pay attention to, so teachers draw children's attention to important learning points.

"Memory is the residue of thought."

Daniel T Willingham

Early Years

In the Foundation Stage, the focus is on a deep understanding of number to 10, including the composition of each number. Children work on subitising (recognising quantities without counting) up to 5 and automatically recalling number bonds to 5 and some number bonds to 10 including doubling facts.

We recognise the pattern of the counting system and compare sets of objects up to 10 in different contexts considering size and difference. We explore and represent patterns within numbers up to 10 including evens and odds, doubles facts and distributing quantities equally.

Maths also includes pattern, measuring, and shape and space. We ask children, "Why?" and "How do you know?" so that they can share their thinking, work together to solve problems and listen to each other.







Subitising

"Don't count. Say the amount"

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Maths Lessons



Teachers use the DSAT Teach Simply model as the pedagogical approach.

REVIEW

In maths lessons, prior knowledge needs to be deliberately activated so at the start of every maths session before new ideas are introduced, time is spent enabling all children to revisit the knowledge they will need. This REVIEW helps children to make connections and should be generative so all students are engaged in retrieving their existing schema.

TEACH

In maths lessons, all children are working on the same objectives supported by scaffolds where necessary. Teachers model their thinking through narrating their thought processes. They actively teach for misconceptions and plan for small steps in learning to ensure no child is left behind.

PRACTICE

Guided practice usually involves intelligent practice where children are encouraged to notice things and spot patterns. Children are *working on* questions when they are asking themselves what is similar about the questions and what is different.

Independent practice allows children to build their fluency.

DELIBERATE PRACTICE

All children have a deliberate practice session every day in addition to their maths lesson. During this time, the teacher will take the vulnerable children to ensure they 'keep up' rather than having to 'catch up.'

APPLICATION

The goal of maths teaching and learning is deep knowledge where the children can apply their learning in different contexts. They are flexible in their thinking and can choose appropriate methods and apply them efficiently and accurately.

What you will see at different times in our classrooms.

- The whole class working on the same mathematics- learning together.
- Daily fluency sessions which involve counting.
- Children being challenged with tasks that develop depth and mastery.
- Concepts and procedures being practiced thoroughly so children have the experience of success.
- Key areas being 'overtaught' to help embed and link knowledge together.
- Conceptual understanding being taught alongside procedural understanding.
- Teachers who are aware of potential misconceptions and children who can spot tricky questions and explain why other children might find them tricky.
- The teacher moving around the classroom, asking the appropriate questions to facilitate learning and deeper thinking.
- Teachers using intelligent practice to encourage children to notice things that stay the same, things that change and provide the opportunities to reason and make connections.
- Teachers and pupils being brave and learning from their mistakes.
- Maths areas which are being accessed by the children
- Manipulatives being used to provide a positive impact.
- When appropriate, children self-selecting equipment from the maths area.
- Maths working walls being used by the teacher and children.

Working Walls

All classes have Maths Working Walls. The purpose of the Working Wall is to record, visualise and assist learning. From FS1, all classrooms have an appropriate number line and from FS2 all classrooms have an interactive 100 square. Stem Sentences are displayed on the working wall and referred to in the lesson. Other models and images and vocabulary are displayed when appropriate as are Can I Still? activities.



What you will hear at different times in our classrooms.

- The correct vocabulary being used and children being encouraged to answer questions in full sentences.
- Good noise pupils are on task and try to prove their points during discussions.
- Children talking about what they have noticed and making connections between new concepts and what they already know.
- Teachers and children celebrating the importance of mistakes. (Research shows that when children make mistakes in maths, their brain grows, synapses fire and connections are made.)

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The CPA Approach

Children and adults! can find maths difficult because it is abstract. The CPA (Concrete Pictorial Abstract) approach builds on children's existing knowledge by introducing abstract concepts in a concrete and tangible way. It involves using concrete materials and pictorial representations as a bridge to more abstract symbols and problems.

The representations chosen (whether concrete or pictorial) need to clearly show the concept being taught and in particular the key difficulty point. Staff use the representation to expose the structure of the maths being taught.

Concrete apparatus is used in all year groups and with all pupils. Children use the concrete apparatus to explain their thinking. In the end, the pupils need to able do the maths without the representation. A stem sentence describes the representation and helps the pupils move to working in the abstract.

Fluency

There are three strands of fluency.

- efficiency carrying out the method easily
- accuracy careful recording, use of key facts and double checking
- flexibility- knowledge of more than one approach.

At the beginning of each year, class teachers share their class' fluency targets with parents. These fluency targets are taught and practiced in maths lessons and deliberate practice sessions. They are assessed at least once per term and children supported to keep up rather than catch up.

Number Bonds

Having knowledge of number facts supports pupils to think mathematically as they can use them to reason, see structures, pattern and make connections. Time set aside to retrieve these facts is seen as a learning opportunity. In FS, Y1 and Y2, all children have a 15-minute fluency session every day in addition to their maths lesson to work on their number sense using resources from the NCETM Mastering Number programme.

We use <u>https://play.numbots.com/#/intro</u> to ensure all children have the opportunity to practice independently.

Times Tables

We support our children to learn times tables to automaticity. This is important so that working memory is not overwhelmed. We teach the concept of multiplication and build a deep conceptual understanding of what the numbers represent. We use daily fact practice from Year 4 and Reflex Math https://www.reflexmath.com/ to ensure all children succeed.

Quick Recall Facts

To help develop our children's fluency in mathematics we focus on learning Quick Recall Facts each half term. <u>https://wsap.academy/quick-recall-facts/</u>

Reasoning Mathematically

Reasoning about we already know in order to work out what is unknown will improve fluency. Strategies include

- Spot the mistake
- True or false
- Using the inverse
- Always/sometimes/never
- Odd one out
- What do you notice?
- Convince me/Prove it/Generalise
- Estimation

As teachers, we focus children's attention and encourage them to notice the structure of mathematics. We ensure children choose the most appropriate method.

Problem Solving

Children are taught the problem-solving skills of Act it out or Draw, Trial By Improvement, List or Table, Pattern, Simplify, Working Backwards or using Algebra. They are supported to develop skills in bar modelling. The bar model is used in teaching for mastery to help children to 'see' mathematical structure. It reveals structure within a problem a gaining insight and clarity to help solve it.



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Maths Assessment

Our assessment values depth of learning, knowing 'why' as well as knowing 'that' and knowing 'how'. Children are encouraged to explain their thinking using manipulatives where appropriate as well as asking questions about the maths they are learning.

NTS Tests

We use the National Test-Style Assessment from Hodder Education as an accurate and informative summative assessment. These tests give us standardised scores we



can compare against national standards. The tests also provide the opportunity for us to conduct gap analysis. This means that we can see which area of maths a child needs to work on to ensure automaticity.

The MTC

The Multiplication Tables Check is an on-screen check consisting of 25 times table questions. Year 4 children take part in the Check in June. Children have 6 seconds to answer each question. The purpose of the check is to determine whether children can fluently recall their times tables up to 12 x 12.

Parent Partnership

We highly value the parents and carers within our community. We know you want the absolute best for your children and will help anyway you can.

There are many ways you can help your child in maths. We all use maths at home in everyday activities while shopping, measuring and calculating. You can talk to your child about things like planning meals for the week or making a shopping list and estimating the cost.

Homework in maths includes working on Quick Recall Facts, practising facts and using online resources.



We believe that EVERYONE can achieve and enjoy learning maths.

We are ALL mathematicians.