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Numeracy Policy

Definition

Numeracy is a life skill. It is a proficiency that is developed not just in Mathematics but also across the whole curriculum. Numeracy involves learners having the confidence and competence to use numbers and measures. It requires an understanding of the number system, recalling Mathematical techniques and an ability to solve problems in various ways. A practical understanding of graphs, charts, tables, and diagrams is an important part of numeracy.

We believe that every child can become a numerate adult – with skilful teaching in school and encouragement at home. (Mathematics made to measure, Ofsted 2012)

At Manorway Independent School, we are committed to developing the numeracy skills of our learners, in the belief that it will support their learning; enabling them to access the whole curriculum and, in turn, raise standards for all.

Aims

- To adopt a whole-school approach to Numeracy across the curriculum in order to raise standards of attainment for all learners.
- To recognise the importance of Numeracy in all subjects across the curriculum.
- To identify similarities and differences in Mathematical teaching in different curriculum areas and develop a common approach.
- To encourage staff to take responsibility for the development of Numeracy in each subject area.
- To raise staff and pupil awareness of key Numeracy strategies through whole-school inset time.
- To encourage learners to transfer Mathematical skills and apply them in everyday and unknown contexts.

Strategies For Ensuring Progress Against These Aims

- All teachers have a responsibility for identifying aspects of their schemes of work that contribute to raising standards of Numeracy and highlighting these aspects in their planning and making them explicit to learners.
- All staff should encourage and promote the use of problem solving.
- Raise the profile of Mathematics throughout the school by promoting the use of numbers and measures whenever possible.

- Learners identified as gifted and talented will be provided with opportunities to extend and develop their understanding.
- All children will be offered the chance to participate in an intervention programme to raise standards.
- Students have weekly times tables

All Staff

- Adopt a consistent approach to teaching numeracy skills.
- Be familiar with and use strategies to equip students with numeracy skills for life.
- Indicate in schemes of work where numeracy skills are taught.

Teachers of Mathematics

- Encourage the use of mental work in the classroom and frequently ask learners to explain their answers. Providing opportunities for learners to discuss enabling them to share and compare ideas.
- Question learners on strategies undertaken and promote the use of problems solving. Discuss efficiency of calculations encouraging learners to develop their own methods.
- Regularly ask learners to consider 'rough' answers and invite them to estimate using these to provide a suitable check for their answers.
- Encourage the learning of facts and skills providing learners with opportunities to practice times tables.
- Use diagrams and equipment to aid understanding when possible.
- Use Mathematical words often to familiarise learners with their meanings and to develop their understanding.
- Support and encourage the use of the Numeracy policy throughout.