



Mathematics Calculation Policy 2025-27

Summary

This calculation policy has been devised to support all staff at Stepping Stones School in understanding the expectations of the National Curriculum. It will ensure a whole school understanding of when a child should learn new calculation concepts in alignment with their mathematical development.

Principles

- At Stepping Stones we are focused on developing proficiency with the expected formal written methods for the end of Year 6. The progression guidance for each operation (detailed in this policy) is designed to flow into these expected methods.
- We acknowledge that our children come from a variety of schools and, as such, upon entering our school, discussions will be held with the pupils and/or their mainstream schools to ascertain the calculation methods they have been taught/are confident using.
- This policy provides examples of a variety of mental and written calculation methods for each operation. These methods are drawn from the AET Mathematics Calculation Policy (credit to Academies Enterprise Trust) and the Lancashire Calculations Policy.
- There is an extended version of the Lancashire Calculations Policy for each operation on our school server to be accessed for further support/clarification/exemplars. This should be used alongside the LAPs document.
- This policy suggests specific practical equipment and approaches for each year group to support our pupils in developing the conceptual understanding that will enable them to move more rapidly and efficiently towards the formal written methods expected.
- Many of our children are working below or significantly below their age-related expectations. Children will be taught and supported in using the calculation methods for the age-related expectations year group they are currently working within and not their chronological age year group. Through this differentiated approach teachers will be able to use methods and materials from earlier year groups to bridge any gaps in a child's understanding.
- The 'Written Methods', 'With jottings ... or in your head' and 'Just know it' sections list the National Curriculum expectations for each year group for calculation.
- The 'Foundations' section for each year group highlights the skills and knowledge that should be addressed on a regular basis within this year group to ensure that children have the necessary fluency to address the new approaches required.