



BASSENTHWAITE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Numeracy Policy

Maths at Bassenthwaite Primary School

At Bassenthwaite Primary School, we want every child to develop a strong understanding of mathematics and to feel confident, capable and ready for the next stage of their learning. Our aim is for children to *master* key mathematical ideas rather than rush through topics, so learning is secure, meaningful and long-lasting.

Our maths teaching is carefully planned using the **White Rose Maths** framework. Lessons are broken down into small, manageable steps and concepts are revisited over time. This approach allows children to build their knowledge gradually and confidently, with plenty of opportunities to practise and apply what they have learned. We place a strong emphasis on **fluency**, helping children become quick and accurate with key skills.

In our Early Years Foundation Stage, children develop their early mathematical understanding through **play-based, practical and hands-on experiences**. Learning focuses on building strong foundations in number, shape, space and measure through everyday activities, stories, songs and exploration. Children are encouraged to talk about numbers, patterns and quantities using correct mathematical language, supported by adults who model and extend learning. Concepts are revisited regularly to help children remember and apply what they have learned, and activities are carefully planned to reflect children's interests while providing appropriate challenge. These strong foundations are carefully built upon in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, where children move from practical and visual learning towards more formal mathematical methods, applying their understanding with increasing confidence and

independence. This ensures children leave Early Years confident, curious and well prepared for the next stage of their mathematical learning.

All children are supported using **practical resources and visual representations**, which help them understand new ideas before moving on to more abstract methods. Regular practice ensures that learning becomes embedded and easier to recall. To support this, we use a short daily retrieval activity to revisit previous learning, helping knowledge to “stick” and strengthening children's confidence.

Key statutory requirements, such as learning multiplication tables, are taught within lessons and practised regularly so that children can use these skills confidently across different areas of maths. Learning is well spaced and builds on what children already know.

Mathematical lessons at Bassenthwaite are **rich in language**. Children are encouraged to talk about their learning, explain their thinking and use correct mathematical vocabulary. Through discussion, reasoning and explanation, children deepen their understanding and develop confidence in expressing ideas.

Once children have developed secure understanding and fluency, they are given opportunities to **reason and solve problems** in a variety of contexts. Problems gradually become more challenging and encourage children to think carefully, break tasks into steps and persevere when learning feels tricky. Children are encouraged to consider what they might do when they are stuck to build strategies and independence.

All children are supported and challenged appropriately. Lessons are designed so that the whole class can learn together at a similar pace. Additional support is provided when needed to help children keep up with their learning.

Children who grasp concepts quickly are encouraged to deepen their understanding through more challenging activities within the same lesson.

We are proud that children leave Bassenthwaite Primary School with a positive attitude towards mathematics and a belief in their own abilities. They are confident problem solvers who can make connections between ideas and apply their skills both in school and beyond.

Review date - February 2029.