The Fernwood School

High Achievement with Care & Discipline for All"

NUMERACY POLICY

This policy will be monitored regularly and evaluated so that it remains responsive to current issues. This will be co-ordinated by the Senior Leader responsible for Numeracy.

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Aims and Intentions

The Fernwood School strives to:

- Develop numeracy skills in students so that they can successfully transfer mathematical skills and apply them in everyday situations and unknown contexts
- Promote ways in which all subjects can make a specific contribution to developing students' numeracy through a consistent approach and common language
- Ensure that all students recognise the importance of numeracy as skills for life

Rationale

All teaching staff at The Fernwood School are committed to raising standards of numeracy due to our understanding that:

- Improving numeracy and learning can have a positive impact on students' self-esteem, on motivation and behaviour
- Numeracy skills are widely embedded across the whole curriculum
- A common approach encourages retention and confidence in application
- Fluency in numeracy skills is an essential foundation for learning and strengthens a deeper understanding of higher-level numerical problems

Roles and Responsibilities

- **The Senior Leadership Team and Headteacher**: lead and give a high profile to numeracy development and be responsible for monitoring progress across the school and assessing standards of students' numeracy
- **The Numeracy Learning Support Leader**: provides targeted intervention to identified students. These interventions focus on developing and applying key numeracy skills. NLSL provides a series of structured lessons and resources for the department to deliver
- **Teachers across the curriculum**: aim to develop students' numeracy skills, achieved by highlighting opportunities for the application of numeracy strategies within their curriculum area
- **Form Tutors**: Implement Numeracy tutor time activities once a week
- **Parents and carers**: will receive information about the strategies the school uses to support numeracy. Parents of students receiving numeracy Intervention will be informed and progress will be shared on a regular basis

Numeracy across the Curriculum

Numeracy is a proficiency, which is developed mainly in mathematics but also in other subjects. It is more than an ability to do basic arithmetic. It involves developing confidence and competence with numbers and measures. It requires understanding of the number system, a repertoire of mathematical techniques, and an inclination and ability to solve quantitative or spatial problems in a range of contexts. Numeracy also demands understanding of the ways in which data are gathered by counting and measuring, and presenting in graphs, diagrams, charts and tables.

At The Fernwood School all departments have a responsibility to develop the numeracy skills of students. To support the development of numeracy skills staff are expected:

- To encourage the use of mental and written methods, only using calculators when appropriate
- Through INSET training keep up to date with current strategies used in the maths department and demonstrate the use of these when appropriate
- To enrich learning by providing opportunities for students to use problem solving skills.
- To promote the importance of showing working out in calculations
- To collaborate with the maths team on specific areas of numeracy required for their subject area

Numeracy Intervention

Students are assessed upon entry into Year 7 and at key assessment points throughout KS3 and KS4, alongside assessment data as a means of identification; staff referrals are also welcomed.

Students should have an understanding of the basic numeracy skills required to be a successful learner across the whole curriculum. We aim to teach students strategies within the following areas:

- Addition and Subtraction
- Multiplication and Division
- Telling the Time
- Number bonds
- Place Value
- Fractions
- Money Problems
- Decimals
- Estimation

In order to meet our aims and intentions the programme is adapted and reviewed based on individual student progress, the length of intervention is determined by individual student needs.

Numeracy Lessons

Those identified for further support receive an additional numeracy lesson. The numeracy lessons cover the first 5 units of the maths curriculum as these are the fundamental skills that form the base of the GCSE. The lessons provide consistency in the delivery of methods with adaptive resources to support students within the lessons. Numeracy lessons form a method of retrieval for our students providing them with a greater chance of achieving a grade 4 and above.

Entry Level

Entry level mathematics is a nationally recognised qualification that gives students the opportunity to achieve a certificated award. Entry level mathematics at Fernwood is provided to

those students who require additional support with their learning or have received a grade 1 or below in their mock exams.

Entry level mathematics covers the fundamental and relevant mathematics skills required for post-16. It helps to build students' confidence in mathematics, which will support them further with their GCSE foundation tier examination in the summer. Throughout the academic year, students sit eight assessments in total, which are conducted in the classroom once the relevant content has been taught and students feel they are ready to sit the exam. The test papers use straightforward language that allows students to focus on the mathematics and achieve the results they deserve.

The eight component assessments are:

- Properties of number
- The four operations
- Ratio
- Money
- The calendar and time
- Measures
- Geometry
- Statistics