Sleights Church of England
(Voluntary Controlled) Primary School

Mathematics Policy

September 2024

Working together to be happy; to flourish; to succeed
through our Christian values
perseverance, respect and **trust.**

Mathematics at Sleights

"The only way to learn mathematics is to do mathematics"

Paul Halmos, Mathematician

At Sleights, mathematics will provide children with practical, hands on learning opportunities to support their development and understanding of facts, methods and strategies. Based on curriculum principles of effective Early Years practice, maths at Sleights encourages children to think creatively, play, explore and problem solve.

About this policy

This policy intends to outline the policy and procedure for teaching and learning in mathematics at Sleights Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School.

In our Church school, our vision is to "work together to be happy; to flourish; to succeed". This policy intends to outline how our whole school community lives this out in relation to curriculum planning and learning in relation to mathematics. Our Christian Values are firmly rooted in this policy. This information is created from staff discussion, ideas and feedback.

Christian Value	How is this value lived out in our mathematics policy?
Perseverance	*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me* (Philippians 4.13) At Sleights we believe that one of the most important factors in successful child centred learning is perseverance. For children to be competent mathematicians, they must be willing to grapple through mistakes, take risks in their learning and try again when things don't work out. As mathematicians, we want our children to be able to try different paths to a solution, learn from their mistakes and develop a 'have a go' attitude. We are there to support our pupils as they persevere through a proactive struggle by directing them through mathematical schemes of work, encouraging mathematical discussion and completing shared work with teaching staff and peers. We offer daily reasoning and problem solving challenges which encourage children to develop skills of mathematical thinking and enquiry.
Respect	*So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you* (Matthew 7:12) All children should be educated with dignity and respect and respectful teaching staff provide opportunities for mathematical decision-making through knowing each individual child, how they learn and being aware of their learning needs. This, in turn, allows us to guide their next learning steps. It is important that we know when to offer help and assistance whilst also respecting a child's wish to explain their thinking. Shared discussions, useful feedback and commenting positively on their answers encourages successful and confident mathematicians.
Trust	*My God is my strength in whom I trust* (Psalm 18:2) Our children are encouraged to trust one another, work as a team with their peers, class and school family resulting in pupils who are positive and confident in their mathematical learning. We all grow through consistent experiences of reliability and integrity. We care about each other, showing kindness, gentleness, honesty and support.

Rationale

The purpose of mathematics at Sleights Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School is to equip the children with the knowledge, skills and understanding to become confident mathematical problem solvers.

Children are taught to think and reason mathematically, apply skills fluently and efficiently, and arrive at an accurate answer. Mathematics learning at Sleights Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School is well sequenced, progressive and focused on developing core mathematical concepts.

At Sleights, we follow the 'White Rose Hub' Schemes of Learning across school. Our children experience opportunities for regular fluency, reasoning and problem solving tasks. These tasks are completed when exploring the entire mathematics curriculum, organised into a progressive long term plan over the children's time at Sleights, supported by the non-statutory 'Ready to Progress' criteria (identified in White Rose Hub as 'Small Steps').

To support the implementation of White Rose Hub schemes, we also use the Number Sense programmes across school. This is daily input for all children, focused on number development.

Mathematics at Sleighs

Mathematics at Sleights involves:

Practical opportunities to develop mastery in mathematics through fluency, reasoning and problem solving tasks.	Daily Key Skills teaching, focused on building, revising and securing the foundation skills in mathematics.	Times tables practise, through Key Skills work, focused on improving speed and accuracy of instant recall facts.	Children identifying their own level of challenge, based on the skills and understanding they have already gained.

Intent of our mathematics curriculum

The children at Sleights will be provided with a mathematics curriculum offer designed to:

- build on and develop core mathematical concepts in a well sequenced and structured progression across their time at Sleights.
- support children's acquisition and progressive understanding of declarative, conceptual and procedural mathematical knowledge.
- enable children to become fluent in the fundamentals of mathematics.
- equip children to develop conceptual understanding recall and apply.
- provide opportunities for frequent and varied practise of reasoning and problem solving.
- allow children to gain and use a range of transferable key skills both in mathematics and across the full curriculum.
- offer opportunities for explicit teaching of problem solving activities.
- in line with our Growth Mindset philosophy, develop independent learners, who are confident and inquisitive to tackle mathematical problems.

We believe that every child is a mathematician and, as a school, we must support and equip all children with mathematical success.

Implementation: Our approach to teaching and learning

Progression of skills and understanding is vital in the successful implementation of our mathematics curriculum. In order for children to progress, they need to have a firm understanding of facts (**declarative** knowledge), before developing methods (**procedural** knowledge) and implementing strategies (**conceptual** knowledge). Teachers ensure that children's understanding of facts is secure, before developing and building on understanding of methods and strategies.

As a school, we recognise the importance of problem solving in mathematics and, therefore, children are provided with explicit opportunities for gaining these skills and knowledge.

We have adopted a number of school wide systems to support the effective implementation of mathematics at Sleights, including consistent Schemes of Learning, progressive approaches to calculation, manipulative use and presentation in books.

Implementation: Our Schemes of Learning

The statutory programmes of study from the National Curriculum are taught through the school's adopted 'White Rose Hub' Scheme of Learning. Clear progression of skills and concepts is identified with the scheme across Early Years, Key Stage One and Key Stage Two.

Using White Rose Hub materials, including 'Small Steps' (based on Ready to Progress Criteria), mathematics lessons at Sleights focus on learning facts, methods and strategies, which have been broken down into small steps. This ensures children deepen their knowledge and understanding of core concepts. The exploration of the types of mathematical knowledge (declarative/facts, procedural/methods and conditional/strategies) is made explicit to the children in teaching and learning.

The school's long term plan for mathematics is reviewed annually, inline with revision and amendments to national changes to the White Rose Hub scheme. The annual reviews of the long term plan ensures effective coverage and sequencing of learning, based on mixed age and single year group classes.

The White Rose Hub termly block plans break down the national curriculum objectives into small steps. These form the basis for our medium term planning with the block small steps guidance and examples.

Class teachers complete short term plans for teaching of each mathematics lesson. This lists the specific learning objective for each lesson and gives details of how the lessons are to be taught. It also gives details of how the lessons are taught. It also includes details of how children will be supported and/or challenged, as well as key mathematical language, mathematical variation and further challenges.

To support the progressive development of number sense across school, we also use three additional programmes, alongside White Rose Hub. These are focused on developing number sense, number fact fluency and times tables. Each session lasts around 15 minutes and is organised around a progressive series of stages. Within each stage there are then a number of books, which again are built up progressively over time. Children engage in daily sessions, built around a review, revise and apply approach. In some cases, the programme is also used as an intervention or keep up support tool.

The number programmes are summarised below.

Programme	Focus	Phase	Summary
Early Years Number Sense	• Deep understanding of quantities to 10	Reception	• Focus on number talk
Number Facts Fluency	• Fluency in addition and subtraction facts • Confidence and flexibility with number	KS1 and beyond	• Focus on root facts • Taught across twelve common strategies to build this fluency and competence.
Times Table Fluency	• Fluency in multiplication and division facts • Understanding of multiplicative relationships	KS2 and beyond	• Teaches key related facts across steps – display, conceptual understanding, fluency sessions and targeted support.

Implementation: Summary

The statutory programmes of study from the National Curriculum are implemented at Sleights through:

- White Rose Hub Schemes of Learning in Early Years, Key Stage One and Key Stage Two.
- a bespoke Early Years curriculum, for children aged two to five, based on expectations set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework and White Rose Hub.
- daily mathematics lessons, consisting of allocated key skills time and knowledge development, focused on acquiring and building on mathematical facts, methods and strategies.
- daily development, practise and application of number sense and facts across school in a progressive approach.
- quality first teaching, designed to meet the needs of all children.
- effective and purposeful use of a wide range of manipulative resources to support conceptual, pictorial and abstract understanding.
- ongoing development of the learning environment, including working walls, manipulatives and challenges.
- a robust and progressive approach to calculation and times tables.
- support for children with additional needs, through booster or intervention programmes.

Impact: how do we ensure that children are learning?

Assessment for learning is fundamental to raising standards and enabling children to reach their potential. Assessment in mathematics takes place daily using a range of strategies such as marking and feedback, verbal discussions with children and response time.

In addition, children complete regular 'low stakes' assessments, to provide an ongoing overview of the impact of mathematics teaching. These assessments include end of teaching and learning block tests (from White Rose Hub) and weekly times tables tests.

At the end of each number block from the additional programmes of Number Sense, assessment is also undertaken and completed to review progress and identify those children who require additional intervention, support or challenge.

Summative assessment activities are carried out at Sleights using the NTS test papers across Year 1 – 6. These are completed on a termly basis, with scaled score information being produced. This data is compared with children's targets, set out by Fischer Family Trust 20. Teachers use assessment information to inform their future planning.

Learning environment

The learning environment at Sleights is consciously calm and promoting purpose and independence. Each classroom will have a learning environment which encourages children to be supported and independent by offering:

- a resource hub of appropriate resources and manipulatives for children to access and use.
- a working wall which reflects learning in the current unit, including shared learning and children's work. This includes vocabulary and relevant known facts. This includes a display dedicated to times tables from Key Stage Two onwards.
- an increasing collection of mathematical texts to support the curriculum's delivery, through the school's curated mathematical texts spine.

Presentation expectations

Our school has high expectations of children's work. It is important, particularly when developing an increasing understanding of mathematical concepts, that children are supported to present their thinking and work in a systematic way. This is achieved in a number of ways.

For example, children are taught to use one digit per squared box, to demonstrate place value. Children are also taught to use the existing lines on squared paper/pages to support measure activities, such as drawing shapes, or statistic tasks, such as data collection.

Sumdog

At Sleights, all children from Year 1 onwards have access to a Sumdog profile. In Reception, accounts are introduced over time. Sumdog is used as an online platform to support the recall and practise of key mathematical concepts and understanding. At Sleights, this is also used as a tool for reinforcing learning through homework activities.

Online multiplication tables checks are also generated and used on Sumdog.

Our school approach to multiplication times tables

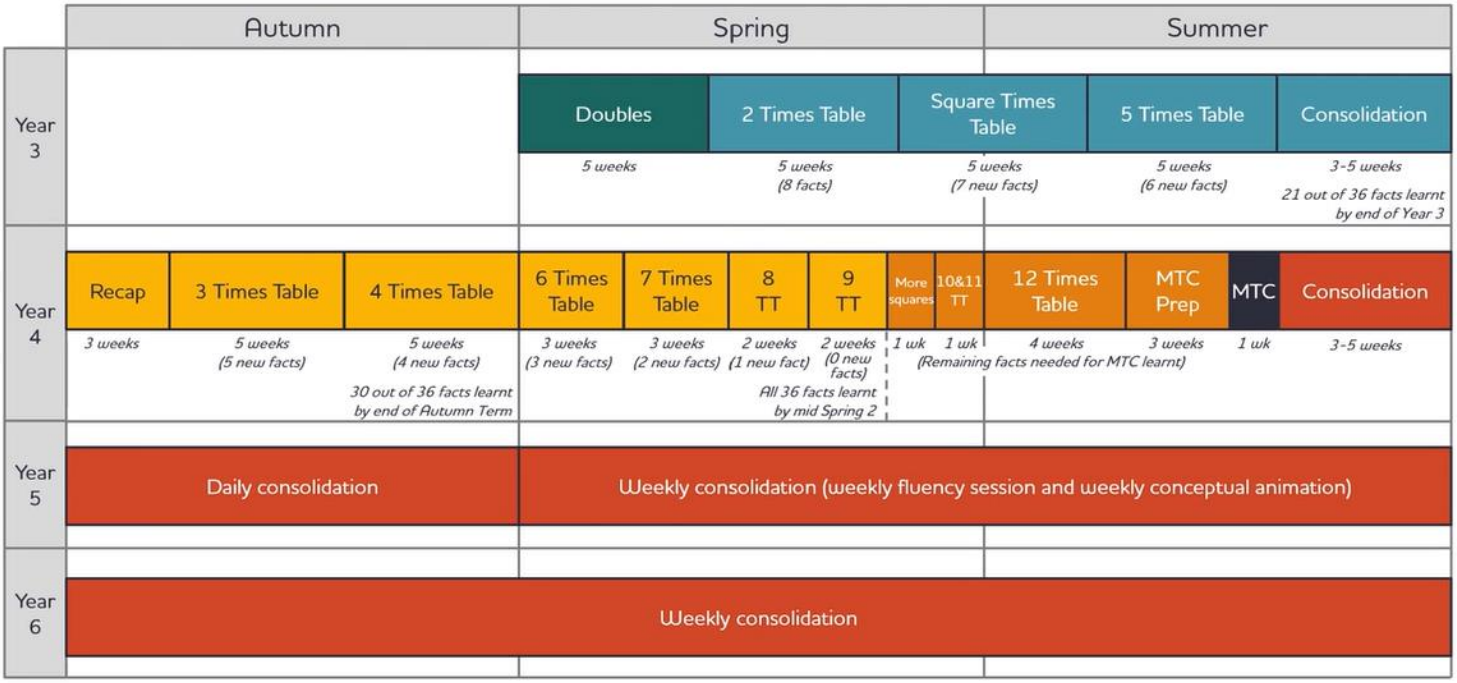
At Sleights, the teaching of multiplication tables is completed through a systematic, whole class approach. Our intent is to break down the learning of each times tables into manageable chunks. Children are taught, alongside each other, one times tables per term, irrespective of prior attainment. Children are supported to learn at the same pace, with catch up and pre-teach sessions used as necessary.

Across Key Stage Two, there are specific units of work and times tables identified across the four years. This includes a firm understanding of the commutative law and the relationship with division facts.

Each year group in school has a progressive set of times tables facts that will be taught across three terms. This sequence builds on already known facts, adding new knowledge incrementally over the child's time in school.

For the school's full approach to teaching times tables, please see appendix A at the end of this policy,

Programme Plan



Family support

We all have an important role to play in children's learning and their attitude and competence with maths can influence the learning of their child. The school will encourage families to support their child with homework activities, maths games and Sumdog (online maths platform) challenges.

Families will be given opportunities to attend maths workshops alongside their children to learn about the maths topics covered in school and teaching methods used.

We will also update families on their child's progress in maths through:

- Parents evenings
- A written end of year report.
- Informal discussions.

Appendix A: Teaching Multiplication Times Tables at Sleights

Intent: Expectations of multiplication knowledge

The National Curriculum states that children should be taught:

- **Year 1:** counting in 2s, 5s and 10s
- **Year 2:** recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables, including recognising odd and even numbers
- **Year 3:** recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 multiplication tables
- **Year 4:** recall multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12 × 12

Our school's approach to multiplication times tables will support all children to gain a secure understanding of multiplication facts, which builds on and develops knowledge over all areas of mathematics.

Implementation

At Sleights, the teaching of multiplication tables is completed through a systematic, whole class approach. Our intent is to break down the learning of each times tables into manageable chunks.

Children are taught, alongside each other, irrespective of prior attainment. Children are supported to learn at the same pace, with catch up and pre-teach sessions used as necessary.

Within each term, children are taught ***one times tables fact*** at a time, ensuring this is fully understood and grasped, before moving on to extend knowledge. This includes a firm understanding of the **commutative law** and the relationship with **division facts.**

Children are provided with regular assessment opportunities, to ensure that no child falls behind.

The teaching sequence

Children are taught times tables, using the basis of number facts and fluency. Across five stages of the programme, children complete a range of units, which build up children's understanding of multiplication and related division facts over time.

The teaching sequence *continued*

Stage	Units	Taught
Programme Foundations	• Doubles	Year 3
Essential Facts Set 1 (21 facts)	• 2 times tables • Square times tables • 5 times tables • Consolidation	Year 3
Essential Facts Set 2 (15 facts)	• Recap • 3 times tables • 4 times tables • 6 times tables • 7 times tables • 8 times tables • 9 times tables	Year 4
MTC preparation	• More squares • 10 and 11 times tables • 12 times tables • MTC preparation	Year 4
Consolidation	• Consolidation up to 9 x 9 • Consolidation up to 12 x 12	Year 5 and 6

Across each unit, the following teaching sequence is completed:

1. Display – this is presented in the classroom and referred to throughout the unit to demonstrate the focus times tables.
2. Conceptual understanding introduction - **animations and visuals are used to introduce key concepts (this might be a longer than usual session)**
3. Daily fluency sessions - **daily practice of facts known and building those not yet known in booklets. Learned as sound patterns, based on oral rehearsal.**
4. Targeted support – **All children are taught until they all get it. Intervention and targeted support in place.**
5. End of unit conceptual understanding – **a chance to apply the taught and known facts to a scenario and concept.**

Assessment is ongoing. At the end of a unit a formal unit assessment is undertaken to review progress and attainment in the focus times tables.

Reinforcement

Known facts will be revisited and reinforced in the classroom setting in a range of ways. This will ensure children are provided with ongoing opportunities to retain and utilise gained knowledge. Activities for revisit and reinforce may include:

- Inclusion in daily key skills / 10 in 10
- Cross curricular application activities
- Maths games, including online using Sumdog
- Building connections with other known facts
- Extend connections with other related division facts

Impact and Assessment

These include a paper based and online assessments. Teaching staff maintain records of the children's progress in paper based assessments over time.

Paper based activities:

- Each times table has related assessment booklet which is completed over the course of the term when this is being taught. These booklets are designed to offer incremental challenge and difficulty, as children learn more new facts over time. Children mark their own work, filling in gaps, or corrections, if necessary.
- One section from each booklet is completed per week.
- Children are given two minutes to complete as many questions as they can.
- This is a timed activity, but the timed element is be handled in an age and stage appropriate manner.
- At the end of the two minutes, the adult leads the children in self marking, with the full times table fact read out. The children repeat this fact back. This is completed using the same memorised phrase style used in the teaching sequence (for example:
- "*1 x 6 = 6, spoken as one times six equals six*")

Online activities:

- Teachers use Sumdog to set online assessments each week, using the 'Multiplication Tables' activities feature. This activity is designed support all children in preparation and consolidation of the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check.