

How can you help your child at home?

Support

Patience

Interest

Challenge

Encouragement

Below are listed just some of the ways in which you can help your child develop essential numeracy skills at home.

Activities like these are fun to do but, remember;

Pre-school-P3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">* number songs stories and rhymes* shopping and baking* sorting by shape, colour etc./matching e.g. pairing of socks
P4 - P 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">* board/card games* telling the time /timetables* weighing and measuring
S1-S3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">* planning a journey, taking into account time, distance, mode of transport* interpreting tables and charts e.g. weather statistics* costing an event/item e.g. choosing a mobile phone

You can make a real difference simply by listening and talking to your child about their learning.

Where can parents get further information about Numeracy?

Useful Websites:

Have Sum Fun - series of games designed for children aged 3-8

<http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/numeracy/findresources/sumfun.asp>

BBC Schools—Suggestions about how parents can help at home (pre-school)

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/parents/work/primary/numeracy_and_science/maths_at_home_preschool.shtml

BBC Schools—Suggestions about how parents can help at home (primary)

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/parents/work/primary/numeracy_and_science/maths_at_home_primary.shtml

BBC Schools - numeracy page for 4-11 year olds with advice for parents

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/4_11/site/numeracy.shtml

Murderous Maths! - problem solving and topic-based challenges for upper primary and secondary pupils

<http://www.murderousmaths.co.uk>

I Love Maths! - fun maths games and puzzles for upper primary and secondary pupils

<http://www.ilovemathsgames.com>

You are encouraged to discuss the information in this leaflet with your child's school.

Insert school name and badge here

Numeracy and a Curriculum for Excellence



A guide for parents and carers

What is Numeracy?

Numeracy is the application of mathematical ideas to everyday life.

Being numerate involves developing an ability and confidence in using numbers, that allows us to function responsibly, and contribute effectively to society. Good numeracy skills are necessary for successful learning, and are essential for life after school.

Whilst numeracy is a subset of mathematics, it is also a core skill which permeates *all* areas of learning. In both the primary and secondary sectors, *all* teachers have a responsibility for promoting the development of numeracy. They will actively seek opportunities to reinforce essential numeracy skills by making links between different curricular areas, and with the real world.

The Curriculum for Excellence numeracy outcomes are organised under the following headings:

- * **Estimating and Rounding**
- * **Number and Number Processes** (how numbers are structured; addition, subtraction, multiplication and division; negative numbers)
- * **Fractions, Decimals and Percentages**
- * **Ratio and Proportion**
- * **Money**
- * **Time**
- * **Measurement**
- * **Data and Analysis** (interpreting tables, graphs and charts)
- * **Ideas of Chance and Uncertainty** (probability)

What does a good numeracy lesson look like?

As in *all* good lessons, in a good numeracy lesson, pupils will have opportunities to do one or more of the following things:

- * **actively engage in their learning**, through discussion and 'hands on' activities.
- * **experience real and relevant contexts** (e.g. costing a trip or event))
- * **work collaboratively and independently**
- * **ask and answer questions**
- * **solve problems**
- * **explain their thinking**
- * **use technology** (e.g. computers, interactive whiteboards, programmable toys, cameras)
- * **make links with other curricular areas** (e.g. measuring materials in technology, or quantities of liquids in science)
- * **reflect on and evaluate their own learning, and that of others** (self and peer assessment)

Learners learn best when they understand clearly what they are trying to learn, and how they will know if they have been successful. At the start of each lesson, teachers will share learning intentions with their pupils and negotiate 'success criteria'.

Pupils are encouraged to reflect upon their progress, and will be supported with planning the next steps in their learning through regular discussion with their teachers and their peers.

How are we promoting the development of essential numeracy skills in Angus?

Your child's school may be involved in one or more of the following initiatives:

- * **Number Partners**: a volunteering scheme which brings together pupils, parents, senior secondary pupils, or volunteers from the business community to help improve mental calculation
- * **Maths Bags**: a homework initiative for upper primary pupils which focuses on problem solving
- * **Maths Challenge Days**: fun, problem solving activities and games to help develop skills in logical reasoning
- * **PACT (Practical Applications of Contextualised Teaching)**: development of problem solving capabilities and essential numeracy skills through real life contexts

What do the pupils think about these active approaches to learning and teaching in numeracy?

I'm better at maths than I was before — I don't know why.

With textbooks you learn one way, but in this class you can learn any way you like.

Doing maths this way is a lot funnier and you learn just as much, sometimes more.

The Number Partners games are fun to play. I like it.