

# What is numeracy?

Numeracy is a vital skill that is important in everyday life. It is about being confident when solving problems, making decisions and analysing situations that involve numbers. Numeracy is key to lifelong learning, e.g. it enables a young person to understand scientific concepts, interpret figures, understand cause and effect etc. Like all learning, it begins in the home and continues in nursery with, for example, counting, songs and rhythms. As children move to primary school they use numeracy in a wide range of everyday activities at school and in activities outwith school, and at play. Portlethen Primary School recognises the importance of numeracy in learning and in life and promotes numeracy across all areas of the curriculum, ensuring that children develop the necessary skills and the confidence to apply numeracy skills throughout their learning.

# First Level numeracy

It is important in First Level numeracy that children maintain their enthusiasm and enjoyment of the subject as the play based curriculum becomes more formal and the mathematical concepts become more in depth. More advanced numeracy skills will be delivered and children will have experiences which cover a range of mathematical subjects such as estimating & rounding, number processes, fractions decimals & percentages, expressions and equations and patterns & relationships to name a few.

## Active Learning

- ❖ Active learning remains a key priority when delivering the First Level numeracy curriculum. Activities in the class might be undertaken independently, with a partner or as part of a group. Maths activities are planned to encourage children to actively engage physically and mentally with mathematical concepts. Learning activities will include the use of games, problem-solving scenarios and applying knowledge to real-life situations.

## Fractions, Decimals & Percentages

- ❖ Children will be introduced to these concepts throughout First Level, by building on their knowledge of number processes, number bonds and timestables.

## Number & Number Processes

- ❖ Children will be taught more complex number processes up to 1000. They will have opportunities to multiply, divide, add, subtract and share equally.

## Time, Money & Measurement

- ❖ Children will be given opportunities develop their knowledge of time and money using more complex problems. Children will learn 24 hour time and will use timetables for specific purposes. Children will be given opportunities to calculate using larger sums of money.
- ❖ Children will make accurate use of a range of objects to measure weight, length and height of familiar objects accurately.

# How can I help?

You can help your child by practising the timetables they have been asked to do. Parents can help by regularly reviewing number bonds and sequencing numbers. Your child would benefit from helping to bake or cook at home using scales, measuring jugs and measurement spoons for example. Asking your child to read the time or to use a simple timetable such as a TV guide would develop their skills.

Playing board games that involve using a dice, counting on and back would help also.

Practical experiences of shopping and getting change from money or calculating the cost of items would be beneficial. Further activities would be to provide imaginary budgets asking children to write a shopping list keeping within the budget given. Talk about directions when making journeys using left and right vocabulary.

# Helpful Websites

## ❖ Parentzone Scotland:

For information about education in Scotland and ways to help parents support their children's learning

<https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/learning-at-home//Supporting-numeracy>

❖ [www.bbc.co.uk/schools](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools)

❖ [www.mad4maths.com](http://www.mad4maths.com)

❖ [www.maths-games.org](http://www.maths-games.org)

❖ [www.topmarks.co.uk](http://www.topmarks.co.uk)

❖ [www.mathletics.co.uk](http://www.mathletics.co.uk)

❖ [www.themathsfactor.com](http://www.themathsfactor.com)

❖ [www.mathsformumsanddads.co.uk](http://www.mathsformumsanddads.co.uk)

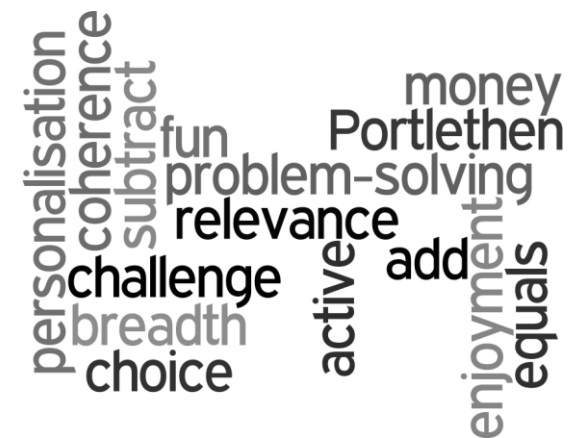


# Portlethen School

## Numeracy

## First Level

First Level is usually covered between P2 until the end of P4 but this may be earlier or later for some learners.



Supporting your child  
with numeracy