



Broughton Hall Catholic High School

NUMERACY POLICY

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

At Broughton Hall Catholic High School, we recognise that the development of numeracy is an entitlement for all pupils and the responsibility of the whole school community. Broughton Hall Catholic High School will provide pupils with every opportunity to develop their numeracy skills.

Aims of the policy:

- to recognise that all teachers are facilitators of numeracy through their subject
- to raise individual numeracy attainment at every level of ability
- to ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to use Numeracy effectively in their lessons and daily life.

Teachers of Mathematics should:

- Be aware of the mathematical techniques used in other subjects and provide assistance and advice to other departments so that a correct and consistent approach is used in all subjects.
- Provide information to other subject teachers on appropriate expectations of students and difficulties likely to be experienced in various age and ability groups.
- Through liaison with other teachers, attempt to ensure that students have appropriate numeracy skills by the time they are needed for work in other subject areas.
- Seek opportunities to use topics and examination questions from other subjects in mathematical lessons.
- Provide pupils with examples of times they have used numeracy by displaying and updating their door poster.

Teachers of Other Subjects should:

- Ensure that they are familiar with correct mathematical language, notation, conventions and techniques, relating to their own subject, and encourage students to use these correctly.
- Be aware of appropriate expectations of students and difficulties that might be experienced with numeracy skills.

- Provide information for mathematics teachers on the stage at which specific numeracy skills will be required for particular groups.
- Provide resources for mathematics teachers to enable them to use examples of applications of numeracy relating to other subjects in mathematics lessons.
- Provide pupils with examples of times they have used numeracy by displaying and updating their door poster.

Form Tutors should:

- Display the weekly numeracy challenge during Monday form time and encourage pupils to take part.
- Have a positive attitude to mathematics and numeracy and promote a growth mind-set.

GENERAL ADVICE:

Calculators

In order to improve numeracy skills, it is essential that students should be encouraged to use non-calculator methods whenever possible. However departments should ensure students have access to calculators when they are necessary. It is recognised that where calculators are to be used their correct use may have to be taught. The Maths department recommend that pupils own a CASIO fx-83GT PLUS.

Methods and Presentation

Where a student is gaining success with a particular method it is important that she is not confused by being given another method. This does not disallow the possibility of introducing alternatives in order to improve understanding or as part of a lesson deliberately designed to investigate alternative methods, provided students can manage this without confusion.

Working out

In all arithmetic, the importance of place value and neat column keeping should be stressed. In a line of workings an “equals” sign should only appear once.

This is poor practice: $£3.50 \times 0.85 = 2.975 + 3.50 = 6.475 = £6.48$

This is good practice: $£3.50 \times 0.85 = 2.975$

$2.98 + 3.50 = £6.48$

Language

When referring to decimals say “three point one four” rather than “three point fourteen”. Read numbers out in full, so say three thousand four hundred rather than three, four, zero, zero.

It is important to use the correct mathematical term for the type of average being used, i.e. mean, median or mode.

Mean : Total of values of sample \div sample size. [The term average is commonly used when referring to the mean]

Median : Middle value of sample when sample values are arranged in size order.

Mode : Sample values which occur most frequently.

Checking

Encourage students to check divisions by multiplication and subtractions by adding.