



Ripon Grammar School

Numeracy Policy

Introduction

Ripon Grammar School is committed to raising the standards of numeracy of all of its students, so that they develop the ability to use numeracy skills effectively and confidently in all areas of the curriculum, and that they may achieve success in future education, employment and adult life.

Numeracy is defined as: the ability to cope confidently with the mathematical demands of further education, employment and adult life.

The numerate student: “demonstrates mathematical literacy through their capacity to identify and understand the role that mathematics plays in the world, to make well-founded judgements and to use and engage with mathematics in ways that meet the needs of that individual’s life as a constructive, concerned and reflective citizen.”

1. Policy

Ripon Grammar School aims to:

- Maintain high standards of numeracy across the school.
- Make use of opportunities to include numeracy in the teaching of all subjects.
- Assist the transfer of students’ knowledge, skills and understanding of numeracy between subjects.

2. Procedures

Ripon Grammar School favours a simple four-stage cycle for data handling [see Appendix 1].

2.1 Expected abilities at Year 7:

This is a non-exhaustive list. See the Primary Curriculum for full details. Students should:

- have a sense of the size of a number and where it fits in the number system;
- know number bonds by heart, e.g. tables, doubles and halves;
- use what they know by heart to work out answers mentally;

- calculate accurately & efficiently using a variety of strategies, both written & mental;
- make sense of number problems, including non-routine problems, and recognise the operations needed to solve them;
- explain their methods and reasoning using correct mathematical terms;
- judge whether their answers are reasonable, and have strategies for checking;
- suggest suitable units for measuring;
- make sensible estimates for measurements;
- explain and interpret graphs, diagrams, charts and tables;
- use the numbers in graphs, diagrams, charts and tables to predict.

2.2 Expected abilities at Year 9:

This is a non-exhaustive list. See the schemes of work for full details. Students should:

- have a sense of the size of a number and where it fits in the number system;
- recall mathematical facts confidently;
- calculate accurately and efficiently, both mentally and with pencil and paper, drawing on a range of calculation strategies;
- use proportional reasoning to simplify and solve problems;
- use calculators and other ICT resources appropriately and effectively to solve mathematical problems, and select from the display the number of figures appropriate to the context of a calculation;
- use simple formulae and substitute numbers in them;
- measure and estimate measurements, choosing suitable units and reading numbers correctly from a range of meters, dials and scales;
- calculate simple perimeters, areas and volumes, recognising the degree of accuracy that can be achieved;
- understand and use measures of time and speed, and rates such as £ per hour or miles per litre;
- draw plane figures to given specifications and appreciate the concept of scale in geometrical drawings and maps;
- understand the difference between the mean, median and mode and the purpose for which each is used;
- collect data, discrete and continuous, and draw, interpret and predict from graphs, diagrams, charts and tables;
- have some understanding of the measurement of probability and risk;
- explain their methods, reasoning and conclusions, using correct mathematical terms;
- judge the reasonableness of solutions and check them when necessary;
- give their results to a degree of accuracy appropriate to the context.

3. Responsibilities

3.1 The Numeracy Co-ordinator will:

- seek opportunities to raise the profile of numeracy across the whole school community;
- seek to provide an overview of the numeracy skills used across the curriculum;
- liaise with all subject departments to enable them to find areas of collaboration between subjects;
- provide resources for students and staff to develop numeracy skills across the curriculum;
- work with the Inclusion Manager to ensure support for students with numeracy problems is in place;
- meet annually with the Head of Mathematics to discuss strategy and develop the Numeracy Policy.

3.2 The Mathematics Department will:

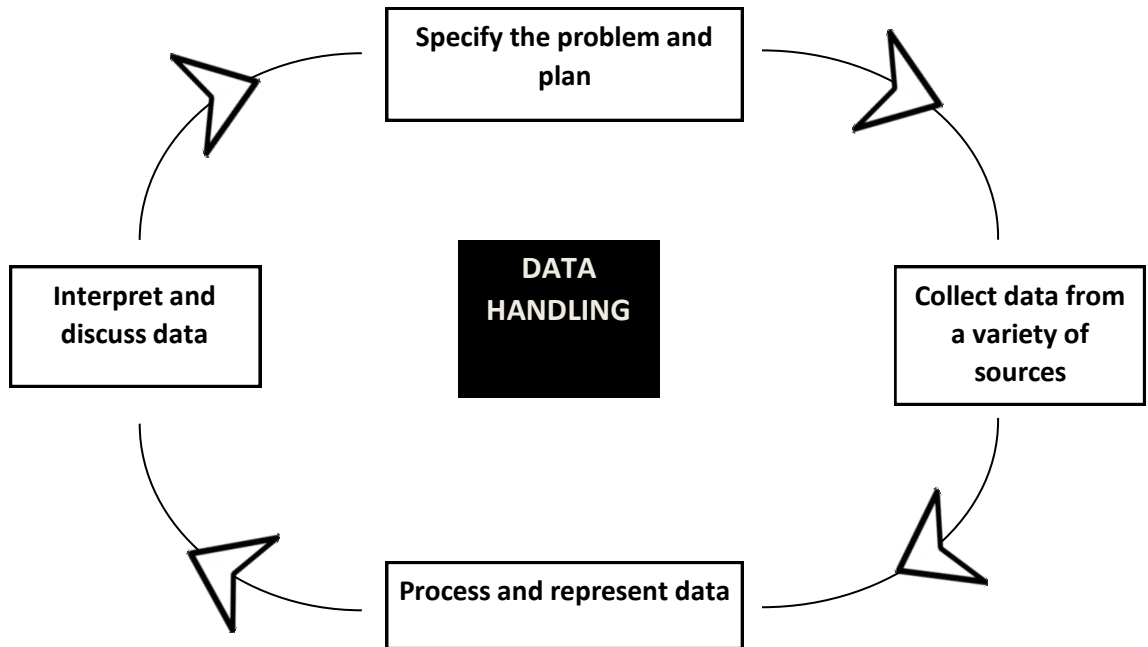
- provide support to colleagues from other curriculum areas in developing their own and their students' numeracy skills, and in building numeracy into their schemes of work;
- seek opportunities to use topics and examination questions from other areas of cross-curricular subjects in mathematics lessons;
- inform the Numeracy Co-ordinator/Inclusion Manager of any students facing numeracy problems.

3.3 Subject Departments other than Mathematics will:

- be aware of the appropriate expectations of students and difficulties that might be experienced with numeracy skills;
- provide the Numeracy Co-ordinator with details of where numeracy skills are met in their schemes of work;
- if requested, provide the Numeracy Co-ordinator with relevant examples of work.

Appendix 1

The four-stage cycle for data handling



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