



**Ormiston
Shelfield**
Community Academy

Numeracy Policy

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1. Developing Numeracy at Ormiston Sheffield Community Academy

Numeracy is a life skill. Being numerate goes beyond simply 'doing sums'; it means having the confidence and competence to use numbers and think mathematically in everyday life.

Everyone needs to be numerate to maximise their life chances and to make a positive contribution to society. There is substantial evidence that low numeracy skills are associated with poor outcomes for many people. This has a negative impact on them and their families – and on society as a whole.

We have a commitment to developing the numeracy skills of all students, regardless of age or ability.

Examples of Numeracy

- Being able to critically assess statistics used by advertisers or politicians.
- Being able to manage family budgets – credit cards, offers at supermarkets and so on.
- Being able to estimate – in all kinds of situations, e.g. journey speed, time and distance, roughly how much a bill will be or your expected bank balance at the end of the month.

Where possible, staff will provide opportunities for students to develop their numeracy skills and provide opportunities to use these skills in 'everyday life' situations. Staff will aim to understand the numeracy demands of their subjects and support these through learning and teaching.

2. Entitlement of Students

- All students are entitled to support in developing their numeracy skills, regardless of age and ability.
- All students will be encouraged to see the relevance of effective numeracy skills in the wider world. This may be through registration time activities, PSHE and subject content.
- Nurture Group students have the use of numeracy learning mats to support them with elements of the science, geography, music, technology and ICT curriculum.

3. Entitlement of Staff

- All staff will be entitled to training and support to provide them with the skills to explicitly teach the numeracy demands of their subject.
- All staff should have access to resources that assists them in explicitly teaching the numeracy demands of their subject.
- All staff are entitled to feedback via lesson observations to allow them to improve their pedagogic practice and better support students' numeracy development.

4. Monitoring and Evaluation

- The quality of numeracy teaching and learning will be monitored within the academy's formal lesson observation programme and other quality assurance methods, where relevant.
- Data will be used to identify students in need of intervention and appropriate opportunities for support will be arranged.



5. What can parents/carers to do help their child with numeracy/math?

The most important thing to do is help your child to feel positive about maths and have fun with it whenever possible. In the UK people are often negative about maths and this makes it harder for children to understand the reasons why we need to learn maths. We acknowledge that as parents we have a responsibility to promote positive attitudes towards numeracy.