

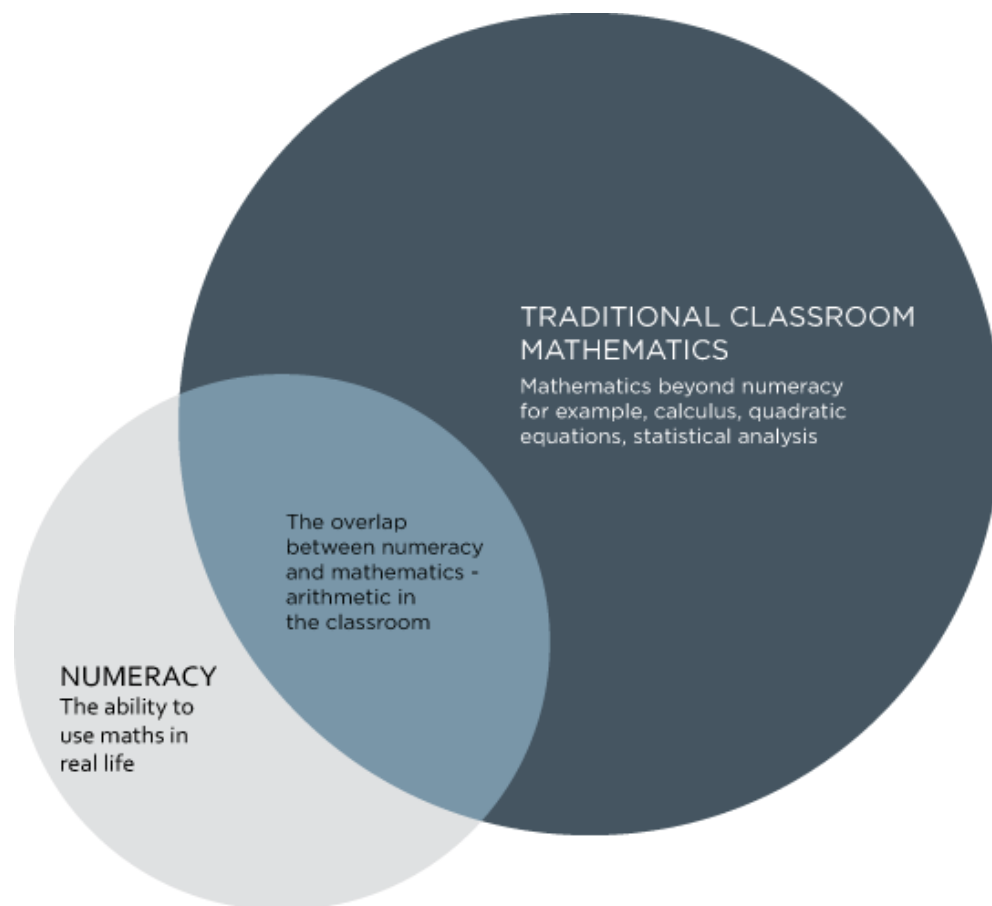
Numeracy



Information for Parents
and Carers

What is numeracy?

Numeracy is different to mathematics. Your child will learn most of their numeracy skills in their mathematics lessons but being numerate means them being able to apply these skills in both mathematics and all of their other subjects. Numeracy is an essential skill which must be sufficiently developed in order to be ready for adult life.



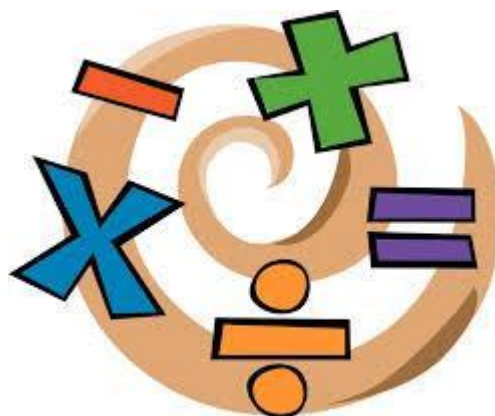
Taken from nationalnumeracy.org.uk

This booklet aims to...

- Explain what we do at Islwyn High School to support your child's numeracy development
- Provide ideas for what can be done at home to help
- Outline sources of further information

What we do in school to support numeracy development

- We put students in the group where we can best cater for their ability. In Year 7 they are placed in sets for mathematics based on tests and the information provided from their primary school.
- Students are provided with regular numeracy practice in their mathematics lessons. They may complete mental practice at the start of lessons or complete written tasks. They are also provided with opportunities to apply their numeracy skills in other areas of the curriculum. Opportunities exist in most subjects but are more prevalent in Science, Geography and Design & Technology.
- In form times students are involved in Numeracy Ninjas once a week. This is designed to fill gaps in students' basic mental calculation strategies and also to empower them with the numeracy skills and fluency required to fully access GCSE Maths concepts when they move to Key Stage 4 study.
- We provide additional support to students when necessary. This takes a variety of forms. Some students/classes receive support in their mathematics lessons via an additional adult who may be a teacher or teaching assistant. Another form of support is when students are withdrawn from lessons other than mathematics and taught by a teacher or a specialist teaching assistant.
- Detailed data analysis of numeracy tests is provided to all teaching staff so that they are able to provide additional support and challenge to any students who require it when tackling numeracy based tasks in subjects other than mathematics.
- The school provides in-service training for all teachers to enable them to deliver effective numeracy support within their subjects.



What you can do to help your child?

As a parent/carer, you are there to give your child their first experiences of maths: from sorting toys to baking cakes, from going shopping to learning to ride a bike (and if you're wondering about the maths in riding a bike, just think about speed, distance, balance, wheels etc - it's all maths!).

Even if you don't feel confident with maths, you can still make a huge difference to your child's numeracy confidence and ability.

Key Points

- Helping your child feel positive about maths is really important and it's something every parent can do.
- Maths is everywhere – pointing this out helps children understand the importance of maths, and enjoy it too.

What is numeracy about?

Being numerate is a life skill that will help your child at home, at school, and one day in their work lives too.

At all levels learning maths is about solving problems, thinking logically and being creative in finding ways of working things out.

A good understanding of numeracy will help your child with everyday tasks like

- Solving problems
- Making decisions
- Understanding information

For everyone, for life

Numeracy is still important even after children leave school. Children with good numeracy skills are more likely to

- Stay in education longer
- Be in work as adults
- Earn more throughout their lives

What you can do to help your child

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. Follow our top tips and help your child develop maths confidence.

Sources of support

Websites



www.mymaths.co.uk

We subscribe to this website as a school. The site provides online, interactive lessons with games and “online homeworks” that provide instant feedback. It covers the vast majority of the mathematics curriculum. These tasks can also be repeated to improve scores with the questions changing each time. Your child should see their mathematics teacher for their log in.

www.mathsisfun.com

A website that explains mathematics in a simple way and provides printable worksheets

Gaming sites –

These provide online maths games for students to play either on their own or against other students around the world. They provide a fantastic opportunity for learners to have lots of repeated practice whilst having fun. Some require an individual login and we are in the process of providing students with these.

www.sumdog.com

www.mangahigh.com

www.tutpup.com

www.TTRockstar.com