



Maths in Year 5 & 6

Our aim is for every child to see themselves as a capable mathematician – confident, resilient, and ready to use maths in everyday life.

In Upper Key Stage 2, children deepen their understanding of the number system and develop greater fluency and flexibility when solving problems. They learn to apply mathematical knowledge confidently across different topics – from fractions and algebra to shape and statistics – and to explain their reasoning with accuracy and independence.

Across Years 5 and 6, children work with larger numbers, decimals, fractions, and percentages, exploring the relationships between them. They also learn to apply their understanding of measure, geometry, and data in practical, real-world contexts.

Reasoning and problem-solving remain at the heart of maths learning. Pupils are encouraged to make connections, spot patterns, and justify their thinking clearly, preparing them to tackle unfamiliar challenges with confidence.

By the end of Year 6, children are ready to move on to secondary school as capable, independent mathematicians who understand that maths is not just about finding answers – it's about thinking logically, creatively, and critically. Our aim is for every child to feel confident, curious, and resilient in maths, seeing it as a valuable skill for life as well as for learning.



Number – Place Value

Year 5

- Read, write, order, and compare numbers to 1,000,000.
- Round numbers to the nearest 10, 100, 1,000, 10,000, and 100,000.
- Interpret negative numbers in context.

Year 6

- Read, write, order, and compare numbers up to 10,000,000.
- Round numbers to any degree of accuracy.
- Use negative numbers and calculate intervals across zero.

Ratio and Proportion

- Solve problems involving ratio, proportion, and scaling.
- Use proportion to find missing values and comparisons.



Number - Addition and Subtraction

- Add and subtract whole numbers with more than four digits.
- Use rounding and estimation to check results.
- Solve complex multi-step problems.

- Perform calculations using large numbers and decimals.
- Solve multi-step problems in different contexts.
- Check results using estimation and inverse operations.

Algebra

- Use simple formulae and linear sequences.
- Express missing number problems algebraically.
- Find pairs of numbers that satisfy equations.



Number - Multiplication and Division

- Identify factors, multiples, prime, square, and cube numbers.
- Multiply 4-digit by 1- or 2-digit numbers using formal methods.
- Divide up to 4-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers.

- Recall all multiplication and division facts to 12×12.
- Use place value and known facts to solve larger calculations.
- Multiply and divide by 10 and 100.
- Solve problems involving factors, multiples, and scaling.



Number - Fractions

- Compare, order, and find equivalent fractions.
- Add and subtract fractions with related denominators.
- Recognise and use percentage and fraction equivalents.
- Read and write decimals to two or three places.

- Simplify, compare, and order fractions.
- Add, subtract, multiply, and divide fractions.
- Use fractions, decimals, and percentages interchangeably.



Measurement

- Convert between metric and imperial units.
- Calculate perimeter, area, and volume.
- Solve problems involving time and money.

- Convert between standard units of measure.
- Calculate area, perimeter, and volume.
- Use scale factors in maps and drawings.



Geometry - Properties of Shape



- Identify 3D shapes from 2D representations.
- Measure and calculate angles in degrees.
- Use reflection and translation on coordinate grids.

- Draw and measure angles accurately.
- Recognise and describe 3D shapes using nets.
- Use coordinates in all four quadrants.
- Describe translations and reflections.



Statistics

- Interpret and draw line graphs and tables.
- Solve comparison and sum problems using data.

- Interpret and construct line graphs and pie charts.
- Calculate and interpret the mean average.

How can I help my child at home?



Make Maths Part of Daily Life

- Involve your child in cooking, shopping, budgeting, and planning journeys.
- Estimate costs, work out discounts, and compare offers together.
- Discuss time, distance, or scale when travelling or reading maps.

Build Times Table Confidence

- Keep times tables and division facts sharp – they're vital for fractions and algebra.
- Revisit rounding, estimating, and quick mental calculations.
- Challenge each other with short daily quizzes or mental puzzles.



Keep Maths Positive

- Praise effort, reasoning, and perseverance.
- Show that mistakes help us improve and lead to better understanding.
- Talk about how maths is used every day – from problem-solving to decision-making – to show its importance in life.

Play Games Together

- Play logic and strategy games like chess, dominoes, or Sudoku.
- Try card and dice games that involve number patterns or probability.
- Use online tools and maths apps to make practice interactive and fun.

