

Key Vocabulary Progression in Maths



This document is designed to assist with the teaching of vocabulary across KS1 and KS2 and is aligned with the NCETM mastery in maths. See separate document for Vocabulary progression in the Early Years. This document identifies in which year group vocabulary should be explicitly taught and introduced. However, language should be revisited in subsequent year groups to ensure children are consolidating their understanding. Some vocabulary might be introduced earlier (shapes for instance) if necessary or as part of an activity, however this document ensures coverage is progressive.

Number and Place Value						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Count	Sort	Count in steps	Ascending	Negative numbers	Ten thousand	Millions
Subitise	Represent	Count in multiples	Descending	Roman numerals	One hundred thousand	Ten million
Order/ordinal	Multiples	Place value	10 or 100 more	1000 more	Powers of	
Compare	Partitioning	Estimate	10 or 100 less	1000 less	integer	
Forwards	Ones	Compare	Hundreds	Thousands		
Backwards	Tens			Round		
Numerals						
Digit						
One more						
One less						
Equal to						
More than						
Less than (fewer)						

Addition and Subtraction						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Add	Addition/add	Sum	Column addition	4-digit number		
Plus	Subtractions	3-digit number	Column subtraction	Operations		

Altogether	Difference	Commutative	Exchange	method		
Total	Equals		Estimate			
Minus/take away	Facts					
Number bonds	Problems					
Part	Missing number problems					
Whole	2-digit number					
digit	inverse					
Multiplication and Division						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Double	Multiplication	Multiplication tables	Exchange	Factor pairs	Multiples	Multi-digit numbers
Half	Division	Commutative	Mathematical statements	Formal written layout	Factors	Long division
Twice as many	Arrays	Repeated addition	Missing number problems	Distributive law	Prime numbers	
Equal			Integer scaling problems	Remainders	Square numbers	
Unequal			Correspondence problems		Cube numbers	
Share			Derived facts		Short division	
Group					Product	
Odd					Dividend	
Even					Divisor	
					Quotient	
					Operations	

Fractions, Decimals and Percentages						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
	Whole	Three quarters	Tenths	Decimal equivalence	Fifth	
	Half	Third		Hundredths	Thousandth	
	Quarter	Equivalent fractions		Convert	Mixed numbers	
	Equal parts	Unit fractions		Proper fractions	Percent	
		Non unit fractions		Improper fractions	Factors	
		Numerator		Decimal point	Integer	
		Denominator			Complements	
		One whole				
Ratio and Proportion						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
						Relative size
						Missing value
						Integer multiplication
						Percentages
						Scale factor
						Unequal sharing and grouping

Algebra						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
						Formulae
						Linear number sequence
						Algebraically
						Equation
						Unknowns
						Combinations
						variables
Measurement (Measure and Length)						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Measure	Compare	Standard units	Millimetre mm	Kilometres km	Decimal notation	Conversion
Wide(er)		Estimate	perimeter	Rectilinear figure	Scaling	Miles
Narrow(er)		Order		Area	Metric units	Formulae
Compare		Record results			Imperial units	Parallelograms
Long(er)(est)		Centimetre cm			Inches	Triangles
Short(er)(est)		Metre m			Compound shape	Feet
Length					Irregular shape	
					Square centimetres	
					Square metres	

Measurement (Height, Weight and Capacity)						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Height	Mass	Kilogram kg			Cubic Centimetre	Cubic metre
Long(er)(est)	Volume	Gram g			Pounds	Cubic millimetre
Short(er)(est)		Quarter full			Pints	Cubic kilometre

Tall(er)(est)		Three quarters full				Gallons
Weight		Litres L				Stones
Capacity		Millilitres ml				Ounces
Heavy/Light		Temperature				
Heavier than		Celsius				
Lighter than						
Big/bigger/biggest						
Full/empty						
More than						
Less than						
Half/half full						
Measurement (Time)						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Time	Chronological order	Intervals of time	Analogue clock	Convert		
Quicker/Slower	Days of the week	Quarter past/to	Roman numerals			
Earlier/Later	Months of the year	Duration	12-hour clock			
Before/After	Month		24 hour clock			
First	Year		AM/PM			
Next	O'Clock		Noon			
Today/Yesterday/Tomorrow	Half past		Midnight			
Morning/Afternoon/Evening	Second		Leap Year			
Day			Digital			
Week						

Hour						
Minutes						

Measurement (Money)						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
	Money	Value				
	Coins	Change				
	Notes					
	Pounds £					
	Pence p					
Geometry (Properties of Shape)						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
2-D shapes	Sides	Pentagon	Right-angle triangle	Isosceles	Regular polygon	Radius
Rectangle	Corners	Hexagon	Heptagon	Equilateral	Irregular polygon	Diameter
Square	Properties	Line of Symmetry	Octagon	Scalene		Circumference
Circle	Pyramids	Cylinder	Polygon	Trapezium		Dimensions
Triangle	Faces	Edges	Properties	Rhombus		
Characteristics		Vertices	Prism	Parallelogram		
3D shapes		Vertex		Kite		
Cuboids				Geometric Shapes		
Cubes				Quadrilateral		
Cone						

Sphere						
Curved/Straight						
Flat						

Geometry (Properties of Shape 2)						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
			Orientations		Reflex angles	
			Angles		Degrees	
			Acute/Obtuse/Right angle		One whole turn	
			Turn		Angles on a straight line	
			Half turn		Angles around a point	
			Three quarter turns		Vertically opposite	
			Greater/Less than a right angle		Missing angles	
			Horizontal lines			
			Vertical lines			
			Perpendicular lines			
			Parallel lines			
Geometry (Position and Direction)						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Over	Position	Clockwise		Co-ordinates	Reflection	Four quadrants
Under	Direction	Anticlockwise		First quadrant		Co-ordinate plane
Between	Movement	Straight line		Grid		
Around	Whole turn	Rotation		Translation		

		Totalling		Sum problem		
		Comparing		Difference problem		
		Horizontal		Calculate		
		Vertical		Interpret		
Through	Quarter turn	Arrange		Plot		
On	Half turn	sequences		Polygon		
Into	Three-quarters turn			Axis		
Next to						
Behind						
Beneath						
Order						
Repeat						
Patterns						
On top of						

Statistics						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
		Pictograms	Table	Time graph	Timetable	Pie chart
		Tally chart	Bar chart	Discrete data	Two-way tables	Mean
		Block diagram	One-step problem	Continuous data		
		Category	Two-step problem	Line graph		
		Sorting		Comparison problem		