

NUMERACY POLICY

The Governing Body has adopted
The Meridian School Numeracy Policy

Date adopted by the Governing Body: 19th November 2013

Chair of Governors 

Date of Review: November 2015.

AIMS

The aim of the numeracy policy is to raise:

- Students' understanding of the meaning of numeracy
- Students' awareness of numeracy, across the curriculum and in their broader lives
- Students' standards of numeracy, in order that they develop the ability to use numeracy skills effectively in all areas of the curriculum and to cope confidently with the demands of further education, employment and adult life.

STRATEGY & IMPLEMENTATION

The following represent the main numeracy emphases and suggested strategies for Meridian for the school years 2013-2015.

Foci I: Students will be able to:

- *Apply numeracy to work confidently with money and time.*
- *Read numbers accurately from a range of diagrams, tables, graphs and real life objects.*
- *Interpret and use information effectively.*

Foci II: Students will be able to:

- *Use number and number processes to calculate accurately and, where appropriate, use efficient mental strategies.*
- *Apply numeracy to confidently measure and estimate measurements.*
- *Present graphs, charts and diagrams to suit purpose and audience.*

Stage 1: Audit of foci I (Feb-April 2013) by CG, to establish a starting point.
Report to SLT.
Conclusions shared with staff (DA/CG), Sept 2013.

Stage 2: Teaching staff & students having an increased awareness of the foci (assembly, Autumn 2013).
SLT learning walks with numeracy as a focus.
Implementing a change in the school lesson observation proforma to reflect the foci.
New numeracy emphases throughout the school such as signs, numeracy alphabet focus per term, bulletin number challenges, numeracy tasks and tables test leagues using the House system.
Assessing the impact of these measures via another school audit, Autumn 2013.
Results summarised and issued to staff, governors and parents.

Stage 3: Spring term 2014, changing the school emphasis to foci II.
Whole school audit (by the end of April 2014).
Assembly to raise awareness of the new foci.
Numeracy posters throughout the school.
Continued numeracy challenges as part of the House system.
Introduction of a new evening for parents to improve understanding of the teaching of numeracy - 'How things have changed: numerical calculations'.

Introduction of offering money management for adults in the community as a paid for course to increase their skills and gain a qualification – tbc.

Audit to assess impact Autumn 2014, results to staff, governors and parents.

Meridian School

The school will ensure that:

- There are opportunities for numeracy in each subject.
- Teachers make students aware of the particular numeracy emphases as appropriate.
- Students have regular opportunities for basic numeracy practice (tutor time – tables, countdown, logical numerical puzzles).
- Students will have the opportunity to read information from tables (pertaining to the House system) and interpret data regularly. This will be provided by the students analysing data (Students on the new Foundation Learning courses in years 10 and 12 will be able to work with and analyse real data, at a House or School level, avoiding the use of individual names, thereby avoiding any breach of confidentiality).
- There will be an increased sign of numeracy throughout the school, e.g. distances and measurements on signs (both imperial and metric) around the school. (Imperial units will be included for two reasons: first, they are still used in real life, both in Britain and abroad (eg road signs in miles); secondly, the students may be tested on imperial / metric equivalence in GCSE Maths papers.)
- There will be opportunities for teaching staff to liaise with the Maths team to explain specific applications in order that Maths teachers can encourage a particular application, e.g. ordering numbers in chronologically.
- Parents are aware of the meaning of numeracy.
- The needs of staff and parents in relation to numeracy are met.
- The needs of the school community in relation to numeracy will be reviewed on an on-going basis.

Students

Students will be enabled to understand not just what “numeracy” is, but how often and how effectively they use it, how it contributes towards the other subjects they study and how it impacts on their wider lives. They will also be encouraged to participate in numeracy events.

Parents

Numeracy audit results will be made known to parents in newsletters, as appropriate. Parents will be given the opportunity to improve their own understanding of numeracy.

Proposals:

Money Management will be offered as a paid for evening course for parents to increase their skills.

A ‘How things have changed: numerical calculations’ evening will be held for parents.

SCHOOL TARGETS FOR NUMERACY

Including how to achieve the targets and success criteria

All areas of numeracy, as set out in Foci I and II above, will be covered in depth in three or more departments, annually in all year groups.

Staff training in September 2013

Review results of audits annually in July

ACTION CG/DA

Students will all be made aware of the meaning of numeracy.

Whole school assembly to be presented twice yearly, Autumn & Spring

ACTION CG/DA

Posters up in classrooms / Glossaries given to students

ACTION all staff, SLT in learning walks Sept 2013

Parents will all be given opportunity to improve own understanding of numeracy in today's world.

Invitation to a new Parents' Numeracy Evening

ACTION CG by July 2014

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REVIEW

The school will review this policy once every two years and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted to

- i) students
- ii) staff
- iii) parents

and be implemented throughout the school.