

# **Foundation Stage**

#### Number

# **Nursery and Reception**

A key priority of any School maths curriculum is to ensure that children develop a strong sense of number and place value. Children will continually encounter numbers in the world around them, whether that be on a bus they saw on the way to school this morning or on their front door at home. But the ability to recognise the symbol 5, and name it, is very different from understanding the 'fiveness' of it, and it is the development of this latter skill that is crucial to a child's mathematical ability.

Furthermore, it is important to recognise that just because a child can recite number names in order, does **not** necessarily mean that they can count. As with learning the alphabet, children can recall a sequence of numbers by rote without any real grasp or understanding of what they mean (hence young children often omit numbers as they count). Gaining familiarity with number names through songs and rhymes is of course helpful, but emphasis should be placed on helping children make links between these number names and the number of objects they equate to.

An intuitive sense of number begins at a very early age, and even before they start school, many children can identify one, two or three objects in a group, regardless of whether they can count. This ability to instantly compute the total in a small group of objects derives from stable, mental images of number which have developed over time from a variety of experiences with different patterns of number. For example, a child might immediately recognise the 6 on a dice, domino piece or playing card:



It is possible that the child has memorised this familiar arrangement of 6 dots. Alternatively, they may have mentally sub-grouped them into two sets of 3, fostering an understanding that a number can be composed of smaller parts. In both cases, no actual counting of objects is involved; instead, the child has relied on other mental strategies. In the Foundation Stage, as well as teaching the children to count objects, significant attention is given to cultivating number recognition and the development of mental representations. In order to do this, much of their experience with number play in the early years will involve concrete, movable objects.





**Foundation Stage** Number **Nursery and Reception** Use of Numicon is another great way to help children develop mental representations of number. 6 7 8 9 10 3 5 1 4 2 seven eight nine six ten three four five one two These experiences and number representations will help children: Reliably count the number of objects in a set using the numbers one to twenty. • 5 3 Place numbers in order. • Numicon, in particular, helps children visualise how the size of numbers relate to each other. Say which number is one more or one less than a given number. What is one less than 5? tour five







#### Year 1

#### Children are expected to:

**Represent and use number bonds and related subtraction facts within 20.** Once a basic number sense has developed for the numbers up to ten (see the Foundation stage section of the calculation policy), children must establish a **strong sense of 'ten'**. Children will become familiar with the '**tenness'** of ten using a variety of practical resources:

# Numicon:



Children should also be made familiar with the related subtraction facts:





# Ten-Frames:

A ten-frame, like the one below, is a great tool for embedding an understanding of ten. By placing counters in different arrangements on the frame, children can begin to generate **various mental images** of the number ten, as well as how other numbers relate to it.







The **concrete** or **pictorial representations** of number facts should always be linked to the **abstract** (i.e. the number sentence it relates to).

## Double-sided counters:

**Red-Yellow counters** can be used to help children find out about different ways of making the same number. They may also start to spot patterns.





#### Year 1

#### Part Part Whole

The 'Part Part Whole' model allows children to visualise the concept that numbers are made up of **2 or more parts** (i.e. other numbers)



#### Ten-frames

Ten-frames (and Numicon resources) can naturally lead the eye to addition concepts:

4 + 3 = 7	5 + 3 = 8			2 + 3 = 5
7 - 3 = 4	8 - 3 = 5		$\bigcirc$	5 - 2 = 3
7 - 4 = 3	<mark>)</mark> 8 - 5 = 3	•	$\bigcirc$	5 - 3 = 2
]	$\bigcirc$		$\bigcirc$	

They can also help the children visualise addition doubles:















5, using the dots to help.





They should also recognise that they can add numbers **in any order** and still get the **same answer**.

Ten-frames will help the children visualise what is happening when they add two numbers that bridge through 10.

For example, with the calculation 7 + 5 = ? children will begin to identify the opportunity to make 10 first, and then add the remainder.





bigger whilst subtraction makes numbers smaller.

7 + 5 = ? 7 + 3 + 2 = ? 10 + 2 = 12







Year 1

Children should begin to understand **subtraction** as both **taking away** and **finding the difference** between.

A simple **bar model** can help them get to grips with the latter:



The difference between 12 and 9 is 3.

# or 12 - 9 = 3

This model is introduced using concrete objects first (including cards with pictures), which the children can move, before progressing to pictorial representations.

#### Understand that the equals sign (=) is a sign of equivalence.

Many children develop the misconception that the **answer** to a calculation is on the right hand side of the equals sign. Scales can be used to help children explore the idea that **both sides** of a calculation must **balance**:



It is important that the children experience the **equals sign** (=) in **different positions**. By writing calculations either side of the equals sign (e.g. 2+4=5+1), the children will not just interpret it as meaning 'the answer'.

Through all this, the children should start to see that **addition** and **subtraction** are **related operations**.

For example: 7 + 3 = 10 is related to 7 = 10 - 3.

			•
•	0	0	0

This understanding can be supported with a tens frame:



#### Year 1

#### Solve missing number problems.

Children must be able to complete missing number problems, where the 'missing number' can be placed in all possible positions:



#### Vocabulary

addition, add, forwards, put together, more than, total, altogether, distance between, difference between, equals = same as, pattern, odd, even, digit, counting on, subtraction, subtract, take away, minus, less than, most, least.



#### Year 2

#### Children are expected to:

#### Recall addition and subtraction number facts to 20 fluently.

In Year 1, a great deal of emphasis is placed on generating different mental images and internal representations of number, with a view to build up a bank of facts about them. In order to achieve this, a wide variety of concrete and pictorial resources (please see the Year 1 calculation policy for more details) are used to support the children's investigations.

The expectation in Year 2 is that children should now be able to recall these number facts to 20 **from memory**, no longer requiring concrete resources to support them.



Use these addition and subtraction facts to 20 to derive related facts to 100.





Add or subtract a 2-digit number and ones.

Following on from Year 1, multiple ten-frames can be used as a starting point to **add** a **single-digit number** to a **2-digit number**.









The value of practising this strategy on ten-frames first is that it is very visual for the children and facilitates their understanding of how to add across a ten.



#### Year 2

Children can use the same strategy on a number line.

67 + 7 = ?

The child recalls a known fact by partitioning the 7 into 3 and 4 first and then:



Questions, like the ones above, involve 'bridging 10'.

#### Add or subtract a 2-digit number and tens.

Ten-frames, base 10 and Numicon are all useful resources to help children build on their conceptual understanding of place value and adding on tens.



By placing the 'units' frame to the right of the others, you will reinforce their understanding of place value.



# Ashcroft Infant and Nursery School Calculation Policy



These examples clearly illustrate to the children that when you are adding or taking away tens alone, the number of units remains unchanged.

Once children have grasped this concept using concrete resources, they can move on to using more abstract, pictorial representations.

34	35	36	37
44	45	46	47
54	55	56	57
64	65	66	67

A hundred square is a useful tool with regards to enabling children to add or subtract 10s from any number. It will also reinforce the idea that the units don't change but that the tens increase or decrease respectively.

For example: 36 + 10 = 46

or: 64 - 20 = 44

Children can also use this knowledge to help them add or subtract 9 or 11, by adding/ subtracting 10 and then adjusting by 1.









# Ashcroft Infant and Nursery School Calculation Policy









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#### Year 2

# Solve problems with addition and subtraction, applying their increasing knowledge of mental and written methods.

In particular, children should be given the opportunity to explore the pattern derived from adding odd and even numbers.



And so on...

#### Vocabulary

+, add, addition, more, plus, make, sum, total, altogether, how many more to make...? how many more is... than...? how much more is...? =, equals, sign, is the same as, tens, units, partition, multiple of 10, tens boundary, more than, one more, two more... ten more... one hundred more, -, subtraction, subtract, take away, difference, difference between, minus, less than, one less, two less... ten less... one hundred less