Supporting Your Child with Maths at Home

Do you wonder how to support your child with additional maths at home? Here are some excellent tips, hints and resources that we hope will help.

Supporting your child at home

- Look for numbers everywhere – on signs, number plates, front doors
- Play games which include counting or number recognition e.g. snakes and ladders, snap, ludo.
- Practise counting in steps of 2, 5 and 10
- Looking at the time – concentrating on o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to.
- Letting your child handle money and work out how much things cost, how much change is needed, different ways of making the same amount e.g. 10p = 1x10p, 2x5ps, 5x2ps, 10x1ps
- Talk about different measurements and quantities e.g. amount of milk in milk bottle, drink in a carton or can, weight of pasta in a bag
- Get children involved in cooking and weighing out different ingredients e.g. flour or water.
- Practise times tables (little and often).

Maths in everyday life

You don't need a worksheet to practise maths. Some of the best mathematical conversations happen naturally during everyday activities.



When you're shopping
"Which is cheaper?"
"How much will two cost?"
"Can you work out the change?"



When you're cooking
"Can you find a 2D shape?"
"What would we need if we doubled the recipe?"
"Which is heavier?"



When you're out and about
"What time do we need to leave?"
"How long will the journey take?"
"How far have we travelled?"



Around the house
"Can you find a 2D shape?"
"How many different ways can you make 10?"
"Which container holds more?"



Through games
"Can you find a 2D shape?"
Dice, cards, board games, puzzles and strategy games are fantastic ways to develop mathematical thinking — and they don't feel like homework!

Ask more than "What's the answer?"

When your child is solving a problem, try asking:

"How did you work that out?"
"Can you show me?"
"Is there another way?"
"How do you know?"
"What do you notice?"
"What might happen if...?"

These questions encourage children to think mathematically rather than simply search for an answer.

What is my child learning?

Our maths curriculum follows the White Rose Maths progression, allowing children to revisit important ideas and build their understanding over time.
If your child is finding something difficult, try to keep the experience positive.

Try...

- Breaking the problem into smaller steps
- Using objects or drawings
- Asking your child to explain what they already know
- Celebrating a good strategy, even when the answer isn't correct
- Coming back to the problem later
- Keeping practice short and regular

Remember...

Speed isn't everything.
A child who can explain why an answer is correct is developing a deeper understanding than a child who can simply produce an answer quickly.

