



**Holmer Green
Senior School**

Numeracy Policy

February 2018

Numeracy is a skill which involves developing confidence and competence with numbers and measures. It requires an understanding of number skills, and the ability to solve number problems in a variety of contexts. Interpretation of data and presentation in a variety of ways is important as well as is understanding of data collection. All young people need to be numerate so that they can contribute to and be part of society. Numeracy is not synonymous with mathematics but is instead a subset of mathematics.

Purpose:

The aim of the numeracy policy is:

- To raise standards of students proficiency in numeracy.
- To raise awareness of numeracy strategies.
- To support staff in improving standards of students' numeracy.
- To support students' transfer of knowledge, skills and understanding between subjects.

Aims and Objectives:

At Holmer Green Senior School we aim to:

- Produce numerate students who are confident and able to tackle mathematical problems in all subject areas.
- Ensure staff share a common understanding of numeracy.
- Enable students to attain an appropriate level of numeracy for the needs of our society.
- Enable students to understand the processes they are using and be able to apply them constructively in unfamiliar situations.
- Ensure that staff are aware that students can use a variety of different methods to solve a problem.
- Ensure students use correct mathematical terms and notation.
- Encourage students to think deeply about mathematics and have an enquiring approach to their studies.
- To encourage teachers to take responsibility for the development and evaluation of numeracy in each subject area.

Teaching and Learning

Teachers should encourage students to:

- Use correct methods of calculation in all subject areas.
- Encourage estimating before calculations and strategies for checking answers afterwards.
- Use appropriate units for measuring.
- Always use correct units where appropriate.
- Use questioning to draw out understanding.
- Explore reasons for wrong answers and unravel misconceptions.
- Use diagrams and number lines appropriately. In History, for example, teachers should use equally spaced number lines to represent the chronology of events.

We recognise that not all lessons will contain an opportunity to develop students' numeracy. Where this is the case, teachers are not expected to include taught numeracy opportunities. Rather, we recognise that successfully developing numeracy is the result of no missed opportunities.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Senior Leader (Mathematics) will audit the numeracy provision at Holmer Green Senior School at least annually. Where appropriate, continuing professional development will be provided for departments.

Departments will identify opportunities for developing students' numeracy skills through their Medium Term Schemes of Learning.

Approved at Governors: March 2018.

To be reviewed: March 2020