

Our Mission Statement

“To empower all of our learners to develop logical thinking and reasoning strategies so they can solve problems and make sense of time, numbers, patterns and shapes for activities in everyday life.”

What is Numeracy?

‘Numeracy’ is an individual’s capacity to identify and understand the role that mathematics plays in the world, to make well-founded judgements and to use and engage with mathematics in ways that meet the needs of that individual’s life as a constructive, concerned and reflective citizen.

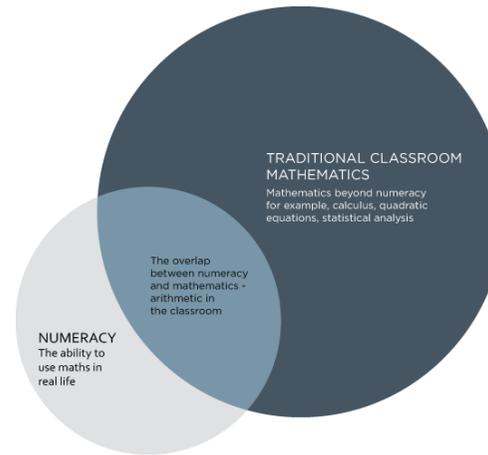
To be numerate is to confidently and effectively use mathematics to meet the everyday demands of life.

Numeracy is the essential skills for solving problems, processing information, making decisions and interpreting data. Being numerate is about appreciating number relationships and interpreting answers. **It is not simply doing calculations.**

These definitions allow us to focus on tackling very poor numeracy skills and on improving life outcomes for many people.

Each of these skills will impact on your subject in some way

What is the difference between



The terms ‘numeracy’ and ‘mathematics’ are sometimes used interchangeably but the relationship between the two is actually quite complex.

To simplify the argument, it is helpful to see numeracy as the skills and understanding that everyone needs to live and work effectively, skills such as calculating time, space or distance, using spreadsheets, checking invoices and VAT. It means confidently handling money, understanding interest, using timetables, working out journey times and interpreting graphs and charts - in other words, living in the modern world.

So, when used in the same context as ‘literacy’, numeracy means having a grasp of numbers and data and the arithmetic and reasoning necessary for everyday life. As such, numeracy is a concrete concept.

Why is Numeracy Important?

- Improving pupils’ numeracy can have a positive effect on pupils’ confidence, their ability to deal with everyday tasks, as well as their lifelong learning and health.
- Students skilled in numeracy are more likely to stay in full time education and as adults earn higher wages.
- Research shows that poor numeracy skills are part of a vicious cycle of factors that lead to disadvantage and poverty of opportunity.
- Workplace numeracy, literacy and employability skills are often used in conjunction with one another. The required skills often overlap and are necessary for any task, for example, completing a job might entail gathering and analysing information; using number or mathematical skills; reporting; using computers; working within a team setting; and possibly demonstrating some initiative.

‘Numeracy skills are essential in life and today’s global market place.’

