## Calculation Policy for Parents.

This booklet has been designed as a guide for parents, to help them understand how the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) are taught in our School.

The maths work your child is doing at school may look very different to the kind of 'sums' you remember. The teaching of maths is now about developing an understanding of number and not just knowing which kind of calculation to perform in a given situation. Initially children work through practical, oral and mental activities as children begin to understand these ideas they develop ways of recording to support their thinking. These informal methods become more efficient and succinct and lead to efficient written methods.

The calculation policy is organised according to age stage expectations as set out in the National Curriculum 2014, however pupils will be taught according to the level that they are currently working at, being moved onto the next level as soon as they are ready, or working at a lower stage until they are secure enough to move on. This means a pupil currently achieving below the average level is likely to be working at the level of year groups below, and vice versa for pupils working at above average levels. Please feel welcome to come and ask your child's class teacher to clarify with you the stages / methods your child is working on if you are unsure.

If your child gets 'stuck' on a particular stage it is always worth revisiting the previous stage or stages to review their understanding.

Addition - add with 2 digit numbers
Children are taught to understand addition as combining
two sets or more and counting on.

Multiplication - multiply using arrays and repeated addition
Children are taught to understand multiplication as repeated addition and scaling. It can also describe an array.
$2 \times 4=$
Each child has two eyes. How many eyes do four children have?


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2+2+2+2
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$5 \times 3=$
There are 5 cakes in a pack. How many cakes are in three packs?

$5 \times 3=$
A chew costs 5p. How much do 3 chews cost?

$\bigcirc \bigcirc_{3 \times 5=15}^{\bigcirc \bigcirc}$

Drawing pictures is very useful to help children visualise the problem.

Dots or tally marks are often grouped. This shows 3 lots of 5 .

Drawing an array gives children an image of the answer. It also helps develop the understanding that $5 \times 3$ is the same as 3 $\times 5$.

Division - Group and share, using the $\div$ sign Children are taught to understand division as repeated subtraction, sharing and grouping.
$12 \div 4=$
12 apples are shared equally between
4 baskets. How many apples are in each basket?
sharing between 4 $12 \div 4=$
4 apples are packed in a basket. How many baskets can you fill with 12 apples?

$12 \div 3=4$


## Key skills

*Count in $2 s, 3 s$ and $5 s$ from 0.
*Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables, recognising odds and evens.
*Calculate statements for multiplication and division within the multiplication tables, writing them using $x, \div$ and $=$ signs. *Show that division cannot be done in any order.
*Solve problems in context using materials, arrays, repeated addition, mental methods, multiplication and division facts.

Dots or tally marks can either be shared out one at a time e.g. one for you, one for you
split up into groups.

Division can be done by repeated subtraction along a numberline.
How many times can I take 3 away from 12?
Key vocabulary share, share equally, one each, two each..., group, groups of, lots of, array divide, divided by, divided into, division, grouping, number line, left, left over

