



Maths Mastery in EYFS: a mathematics guide for parents

Ivy Chimneys Primary School

What is Maths Mastery?

At Ivy Chimneys we see Mastery Teaching in maths as allowing all pupils to gain a deeper understanding of mathematics, allowing them to acquire a secure and long term understanding of number, shape, space and measure that will allow them to make greater progress as they move onto more complex topics.

Teaching for Maths Mastery

We will teach mathematics by breaking down objectives into the smallest steps, so that pupils are secure in every new concept before moving on. We focus on teaching for fluency, reasoning and problem solving.

Why are we teaching this way?

To ensure that all pupils have a deep and concrete understanding of mathematical concepts. Although some pupils may start school able to recognise many numerals and count up to a high number, they typically find it more difficult to put this knowledge into practice to solve problems and complete tasks. The Maths Mastery approach will ensure a richer teaching of mathematics.

How are children challenged?

We understand that some pupils start life at Ivy Chimneys with quite a high knowledge of number. We are confident that the Maths Mastery approach will give us more opportunities to challenge every pupil regardless of their ability. We frequently dip into the KS1 teaching for mathematics to challenge some of our pupils and we are excited that the Maths Mastery approach in EYFS makes this now even easier to do so. Trickier concepts such as number bonds and partitioning which were previously only taught in Year 1 are now introduced in reception. By focussing on deepening the children's knowledge, particularly when teaching number, children will be able to access higher levels of learning than in previous years.

Early Learning Goals in Reception

There are two Early Learning Goals for maths. This is what most children in EYFS are expected to be able to do by the time they finish reception.

Number: Children count reliably with numbers from one to twenty, place them in order and say which number is one more or one less than a given number. Using quantities and objects, they add and subtract two single digit numbers and count on or back to find the answer. They solve problems including doubling, halving and sharing.

Shape, Space and Measure: Children use everyday language to talk about size, weight, capacity, position, distance, time and money to compare quantities and objects and to solve problems. They recognise, create and describe patterns. They explore characteristics of everyday objects and shapes and use mathematical language to describe them.