

Introduction

Barley Croft's maths curriculum is focused on supporting every child in our school develop into confident and enthusiastic mathematicians. We are committed to ensuring that they leave primary school being able to apply their maths skills and knowledge across a range of real-life situations plus we also want them to be well-prepared for secondary school.

The way that maths is taught has changed a great deal in recent years. Many schools, including Barley Croft, now use a mastery approach to teach maths. This simply means that our approach is focused on helping the children to develop a deep understanding of what they are learning in maths. In the past, children were taught methods without being given the opportunity to understand how or why these methods work. Research has shown that this is not a helpful way of ensuring that children become good mathematicians.

As part of our mastery curriculum, the children are encouraged to explore problems using practical equipment to help them to develop a deeper understanding of the methods they are learning. The problems that they explore are designed to help them see the many ways in which maths is important to wider life and other curriculum areas. Plus there is also a strong focus on helping the children to learn and use the vocabulary they need to explain their mathematical thinking through the use of sentence stems. Teachers use a range of high-quality resources during lessons, including books from the Power Maths series. These books were written by experts in primary maths to support children with developing a deep and thorough understanding of their learning. Power Maths KS1 and KS2 are recommended by the DfE, having met the NCETM's criteria for high-quality textbooks, and have been judged as "fully delivering a mastery approach".

Power Maths lessons are split into 5 parts:-

Discover

Every lesson starts with a Discover task to get children to solve a problem that aims to generate curiosity. During the Discover section children may use manipulatives to help them understand the maths and explain their method.

Share

The next stage encourages children to Share the methods they have tried to solve the problem in Discover.

Think Together

We only learn when we are thinking! In this section Power Maths takes the approach "I do, we do, you do", as children apply the knowledge they have just learned in a series of problems that continue to encourage thinking throughout.

Practice

Children are then ready for some independent practice in their workbooks.

Reflect

The final Reflect question helps the children evaluate whether they have understood the key concept and small step that they have been trying to master in the lesson.

Further information about the intent and implementation of our maths curriculum can be found in the documents below. Please refer to the calculation policies and progression maps for an overview of how skills and knowledge in maths are developed across each year group.