



# **Teaching Mathematics at KJA**

We have a shared culture at Kensington Junior Academy to dispel any myths that there is a mathematics gene and that only a select few can be good at maths: we fully believe that <u>all</u> children can understand and achieve. We promote and foster mathematical mindsets and actively encourage hard work, practice and a willingness to learn from mistakes. We instil an appreciation and love for maths because the habits of thinking mathematically are life-enriching: we uphold the belief that it is essential to be numerate to fully engage in society. The intention of our approaches are to provide all children with full access to the curriculum, enabling them to 'master' mathematics.

At the core of our teaching is the five big ideas in teaching for mastery:

- Coherence breaking learning down into small steps.
- Mathematical thinking developing deep understanding of concepts taught.
- Fluency autonomous recall of key number facts and the ability to use them in varying contexts.
- Variation varying the presentations of concepts so that mechanical repetition is avoided.
- Representation and structure exposing concepts through the concentrate, pictorial and abstract approach.

Mathematics is taught using the DfE approved Power Maths scheme, supplemented by resources from White Rose Maths and NCETM. Teaching staff follow a process model to ensure pupils become adept at 'Thinking like a Mathematician'.

# **A Process Model for Maths**

## **#1 Representation and structure**

- Communicating concepts
  - Making connections
    - Accessing ideas

#### #4 Variation

- •What's the same and what's different?
- •I know this...so...I know this
- Making connections

# Think like an Mathematician

## #3 Fluency

- Knowing key mathematical facts
  - Thinking flexibly
  - Making connections

## **#2 Mathematical Thinking**

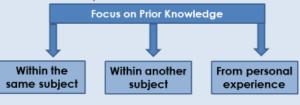
- Chains of reasoning
- Applying maths to problems
  - Making connections

## In order to 'Think like a Mathematician' pupils will work through four distinct areas:

#### Link It

#### Focus on Prior Knowledge

- Be proactive in helping pupils to recall prior learning from previous units of learning within the subject or from other subjects.
  - Give time to, and respect, any personal experiences pupils may bring to the learning.
- Ensure pupils are secure in their prior knowledge within the subject before starting new unit of learning.
- Where appropriate, use a diagnostic assessment to check on retention and then reteach parts that have not been retained.



#### Check It

- Create checkpoints throughout the lesson to ensure that pupils have understood the current learning.
- Mark in the moment and provide instant feedback to pupils. Ensure you
  pick up on pupils who are falling behind.
- When possible, provide rapid intervention for those pupils that need it.
- Use retention assessments to help you gain a picture of any gaps that may be occurring.

Use the information from above to target intervention through peer support and teacher and TA support.

Identify individuals who need additional challenge.

#### Learn It

- Present new learning to pupils in small chunks to prevent cognitive overload.
  - Effectively the composite and component examples work for this.
- Provide effective modelling and plan time for guided and independent practice.
- Ensure there are opportunities for pupils to develop their substantive knowledge alongside disciplinary knowledge.
- Start with an activity to focus on being a scientist, historian or a geographer (artist, technologist)
  - Ensure you have rehearsed any new concepts and checked understanding.
    - · Use talk for learning to comprehend new concepts and vocabulary.

#### · New Vocabulary

 Ensure that there are opportunities for pupils to learn new vocabulary (speaking frames, etc.

#### Show It

- Ensure that there are opportunities for pupils to showcase their learning.
- Ensure that this links the disciplinary with the substantive knowledge. For example, in history ensure that you link in the impact the period studied had on our lives today. Give pupils time to challenge the quality of the evidence.
- Maximise opportunities to develop cross curricular activities, independent writing, knowledge displays, group activities that could be filmed and shared as well as through debate and drama.
- Provide ample opportunity to showcase their new skills and new knowledge in a variety of ways.
- In addition, provide opportunities to use the new vocabulary they have acquired
  in other areas of the curriculum.

# **Outcomes of Learning**







