${ }^{1}$ Arithmetic Proficiency is an appreciation of number and number operations, which enables mental calculations and written procedures to be performed efficiently, fluently and accurately.
${ }^{2}$ Mathematical Proficiency requires a focus on core knowledge and procedural fluency so that pupils can carry out mathematical procedures flexibly, accurately, consistently, efficiently, and appropriately. Procedures and understanding are developed in tandem.

It is not enough to learn procedures; calculations need to make sense too. Structured written methods need to be based on an understanding gained from practical work, images, models and informal methods. These can then be confidently applied to different circumstances leading to success in higher levels of maths. Limited understanding of the key ideas underlying the progression of calculation strategies makes children less flexible when using number. Children need to have opportunities to reflect on and reason about the actions and processes they use in order to refine them and gain deeper understanding.

An ability to calculate mentally lies at the heart of numeracy. Written methods are also important and there needs to be a balance between the two approaches. Research nationally and within BLC has shown that many children fail to make use of a written strategy that enables them to get the right answer when calculating. Many children use inefficient, inaccurate methods which do not enable them to succeed. The ability to be able to perform accurately and efficiently when working with the four operations increases enjoyment of maths

Our aim is for children to be able to pick the most efficient and accurate methods of calculation taking into account the numbers to be operated on. Eg $99+100$ would be dealt with differently to $233+188$. Children need to have a broad range of strategies to choose from.

Our work with Braunton Academy has highlighted that many low achievers benefit from being taught a single method to deal with calculations in year 7 as it helps them to access the rest of the curriculum and feel more confident. The children at this level feel confused about lots of different methods and vocabulary and are happier to have a "fail safe" method of calculating enabling them to participate in lessons. They do not like to use apparatus or anything that makes them stand out in classes.

At all stages of calculations a good knowledge of key skills and key facts such as tables and number bonds have a huge impact on the speed of calculations, the ability to access higher levels of maths and confidence as well as enjoyment of maths. It is vital that these are taught and learnt thoroughly.

Written work can take many different forms including:
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| digit numbers |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Count on 1 more mentally Count on 2 more | Add 1 to any number to 10 | $\begin{aligned} & \hline 7+1=8 \\ & 8+1=9 \\ & 9+\quad=10 \end{aligned}$ |
| Counting on with a bead bar/ number line | Count on in ones. | Number lines (numbered) $7+4$ <br> Recording by - drawing jumps on prepared lines <br> - constructing own lines |
| The commutative nature of addition | Practical activities will illustrate this This encourages good understanding. <br> Using concrete examples | $5+4$ $=$ $=5+4$  <br> $5+\square$ $=9$ 9 $=+4$ <br> $\square+4$ $=9$ 9 $=5+$ <br> $+\quad$ $=9$ 9 $=+$ <br> Adding three numbers $1++5=17$ Extend to $14+5=10+$ |
| Crossing the 10s boundary when adding a single digit. | Using a number line to visualise |  |
| Add a single digit to a multiple of 10 | Using number lines as a visual image Mental addition | $10+4=$ |

[^0]| Rehearse number bonds to 20 | These are key facts that need to be learnt and continually reinforced. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Doubling single digit numbers | These are key facts that need to be learnt and continually reinforced. |  |
| Identifying near doubles and compensating |  | $6+7=6+6-1=13$ |
| Adding 2 digit numbers not bridging 10 | At all stages diennes blocks, counters, other manipulatives foster deeper understanding and visual images. <br> This requires place value knowledge and partitioning of tens and units |  |
| Adding 2 digit numbers bridging 10 | Continue work with place value, partitioning and recombining | Use an empty number line $\begin{array}{lcc} \text { Tens } & \text { units } \\ & 50 & 5 \\ + & 30 & 8 \\ & --\cdots----13=93 \end{array}$ |

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|  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Using the expanded columnar method...vertical addition | Headings of HTU may be useful to keep place value correct. | $\begin{array}{rr} 625 & \\ +48 & \\ \hline 13 & 5+8 \\ 60 & 20+40 \\ \frac{600}{600} & 600+0 \\ \hline \underline{673} & \end{array}$ |
| Using the contracted method of addition | Make sure that children understand the idea of "carrying" What is the value of the number being carried? Use diennes blocks/ counters to model this <br> Go back to previous stage if necessary. | $\begin{array}{r} 587 \\ +\quad 475 \\ \hline 1062 \\ \hline 11 \end{array}$ |
| Extend to addition of decimals | Decimals <br> Add 2 or more with up to 4 digits and one or two decimal places <br> e.g. $24.9+7.25$ | $\begin{array}{r} 24.90 \\ +\frac{7.25}{32.15} \\ \hline \frac{11}{11} \end{array}$ |
| Continue with mental methods <br> To ensure flexibility of thinking. Consider the numbers being dealt with and make a sensible choice about the best strategy to use. Estimate what the answer might be. Use inverse operations to check the answer. |  |  |


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