Mathematics Intent

At Braeburn, we value a curriculum that builds and fosters children's self esteem and positive attitudes towards mathematics and that suits the varying needs of our children. Mathematics is an interconnected subject in which pupils need to be able to move fluently between representations of mathematical ideas. The programmes of study are, by necessity, organised into distinct domains but as a school we strive to ensure pupils make rich connections across mathematical ideas to develop fluency, reasoning and competence in solving a range of problems accurately. Planning in mathematics is supported by the NCETM Mastering Number scheme and the Spines and underpinned by the National Curriculum. The NCETM provides coherence to the National Curriculum by exposing core concepts and demonstrating progression from early years to year 6. The fundamentals of mathematics are developed through varied and frequent practise. Mathematics sessions at Braeburn are weighted heavily towards foundational skills and additive facts. Children are taught logical and efficient strategies and solutions discreetly as well as being able to explore open ended problems in real world contexts. At Braeburn, we know the vital importance of ensuring children are cognitively ready to be exposed to concepts. To avoid cognitive overload children are given repeated opportunities to consolidate understanding when they are not sufficiently fluent, including through additional practise to maximise progress. Regular formative assessments will be used to respond to the needs of the children and inform teachers planning and monitor children's progress. Vocabulary comes through conceptual understanding: we encourage children to talk and think mathematically and find creative methods and solutions once they have secured basic methods and skills. Small steps and a 'mastery' approach through the NCETM resources allows children to acquire a deeper and adaptable understanding of the subject through CPA (Concrete - Pictorial -Abstract). We want our children to be confident, resilient and persevere. Our approach aims to broaden their knowledge and understanding of how mathematics is used in the wider world; transferable mathematical skills and to empower children in their decision making in a range of contexts, ensuring they are well equipped for their future.