

St Alban's Catholic High School



Numeracy Policy

Approved by Governors' Curriculum Committee on: 3rd February 2025

Recommission Date: February 2027



St Alban's High School

Numeracy Policy

Our aim is to raise the achievement of all students and students by seeking to develop their numeracy skills by consistent and accurate application across the curriculum.

Numeracy is a key skill in students' learning and all students are entitled to quality experiences in this area. The teaching of numeracy is the responsibility of all staff and the school's approaches should be as consistent as possible across the curriculum.

We need to:

- 1. Raise the profile of numeracy within the school*
- 2. Raise standards of numeracy*
- 3. Make numeracy teaching an overt part of every curriculum area*

The school will:

- Create a positive and attractive environment which celebrates numeracy
- Provide role models through celebrating the successes of older students
- Ensure that there are planned activities in the curriculum to allow students to learn and practice their range of numeracy skills
- Display examples of high quality examples of numeracy being applied across the curriculum
- Promote Key Skills and recognise student achievement
- Ensure that faculties/departments are adhering to the numeracy policy support document - Numeracy across the curriculum
- Provide INSET on teaching numeracy

Each Faculty/Department will:

Contribute to the raising of numeracy standards within their curriculum area by:

- The provision of high quality exemplar materials
- The use of ICT and of the bar method to aid understanding.
- Displaying examples of numeracy within curriculum based contexts
- Highlighting opportunities for the use of numeracy within their subject area
- Endeavouring to ensure that materials presented to students will match their capability both in subject content and in numerical demands
- Ensuring that all staff are familiar with the 'Numeracy Across The Curriculum' document which supports this policy

NUMERACY - FACULTY/DEPARTMENT GUIDELINES

As a teacher, you can help children to acquire proficiency in numeracy by giving a sharp focus to the relevant aspects of the programmes of study for mathematics. The outcome should be numerate students who are confident enough to tackle mathematical problems without going immediately to teachers or friends for help.

All teachers will:

1. Have the highest expectations of the students and ensure that the numerical content is of a high standard
2. Discourage students from writing down answers only and encourage students to show their numerical working out within the main body of their work
3. Encourage the use of estimation particularly for checking work
4. Encourage students to write mathematically correct statements
5. Recognise that there is never only one correct method and students will be encouraged to develop their own correct methods where appropriate rather than be taught 'set' ways
6. Allow and encourage students to 'vocalise' their maths - a necessary step towards full understanding for many students
7. Help students to understand the methods they are using or being taught - students gain more and are likely to remember much more easily if they understand rather than are merely repeating by rote
8. Encourage students to use non-calculator methods whenever possible
9. Encourage students to use the correct language e.g. use the word 'mean' rather than 'average'
10. Follow the guidelines laid out in the 'Numeracy Across The Curriculum' document.
11. If problems with numeracy are identified then the Mathematics department will be informed and will if possible adjust the teaching programme to address the weakness.

Signed by P Dance, Chair of Governors:

Date: 03 February 2025
