



# **Dixons Allerton Academy**

## **Numeracy Policy**

**Responsibility for Review: Senior Leadership Team**



## Statement of intent

The Academy believes that numeracy is essential to scholars for the achievement of their maximum potential; scholars need to have the skills to solve numerical problems by any suitable means, with full understanding, and interpret the answers they obtain. Scholars should be able to apply their skills both inside and outside Academy.

Since becoming an Academy, the Mathematics department has initiated a review of the numeracy in school looking to see what content departments have with numeracy (in their scheme of work if appropriate) and if possible to support their teaching by covering topics at appropriate stages. This is a three year plan and initially the department have met with Science, Business Studies and Geography as they were identified as the main departments using numeracy. The department will also look to improve scholars' skills in drawing and interpreting graphs to have common methods and styles across subjects. This will include the use of ICT in producing statistical graphs which are not misleading.

Overall, the Academy encourages the following aims and procedures for its numeracy policy:

**Signed by :.....**  
**(Principal)**

**Date:.....**

**Signed by :.....**  
**(Chair of Governors)**

**Date:.....**



## The aims are

- to ensure that both staff and scholars are working towards a common purpose
- to ensure a common understanding of the value of mathematical and numerical skills
- to deliver an education which equips scholars with the skills necessary to participate in the technological, economic, social and cultural life of the community
- to recognise and realise the potential of all scholars

## Procedures

In order to provide maximum opportunity for scholars to develop and improve their numeracy skills and so develop a positive and consistent attitude to mathematics and its applications, all Academy staff are asked to observe the guidelines below:

Staff are to encourage scholars at all times to:

- use mental arithmetic/pencil and paper methods to perform simple calculations whenever possible
- make an estimate before performing calculations, especially to ensure reasonableness of answers on the occasions when calculators must be used
- use appropriate mathematical language (both spoken and written) and to share different methods/ideas for solutions to mathematical problems, thus valuing both 'standard' and 'non-formal' skills
- correctly label and present all types of graphs – bar charts, pie charts, line graphs, etc. and to recognise when each type of graph is appropriate. Discussion as to the interpretation of graphs from data and the social and moral issues of how graphs may be misleading is also to be encouraged
- use a variety of units of measure, imperial as well as metric, stating clearly which units have been used and being aware of approximate equivalences
- be consistent in the use and re-arranging of algebraic formulae

Staff are also encouraged at all times to discuss with any member of the Mathematics Department, the use of the Mathematics within their curriculum area.