



The Cornwall Independent School

British Values and SMSC in Maths



British Values

At The Cornwall Independent School, fostering mutual respect, understanding and a strong sense of community is central to school life. We recognise that modern Britain is made up of people from a wide range of backgrounds, cultures, beliefs and experiences, and we prepare our pupils to live and contribute positively within this diverse society. British Values support the development of respectful, responsible and tolerant citizens who appreciate the rights, freedoms and viewpoints of others. The Cornwall Independent School is committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment where all pupils feel valued and protected from intimidation, extremism, radicalisation, or any influence that seeks to undermine their wellbeing, personal development or the values of a democratic society.

At The Cornwall Independent School, Mathematics provides regular opportunities to promote and develop British Values alongside pupils' mathematical knowledge and skills. Through problem-solving, discussion, collaborative work and the interpretation of real-world data, pupils are encouraged to develop respect for different viewpoints, make reasoned decisions and understand the importance of fairness, responsibility and honesty. Mathematics also enables pupils to explore real-life issues involving finance, statistics, probability and data, helping them to become informed, critical and responsible members of society. British Values are therefore embedded naturally within the teaching and learning of Mathematics rather than being treated as a separate topic.

Democracy	Democracy is promoted through opportunities for pupils to express and justify their opinions, particularly when discussing different methods of solving mathematical problems. Pupils are encouraged to listen to alternative approaches, explain their reasoning and reach conclusions based on evidence. Mathematical investigations and problem-solving activities provide opportunities for pupils to make choices, consider different viewpoints and understand the importance of fairness and representation when interpreting data, graphs and statistics.
The Rule of Law	The importance of rules and procedures is embedded within mathematics. Pupils learn that mathematical conventions, formulae and processes need to be followed accurately in order to reach reliable conclusions. Lessons also provide opportunities to discuss the importance of rules in wider society, for example when working with money, taxation, percentages, probability and statistics. Pupils develop an understanding that rules provide structure, consistency and fairness.
Individual Liberty	Pupils are encouraged to develop confidence and independence in their mathematical thinking. They are given opportunities to choose appropriate methods, strategies and representations when solving problems and are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning. Mistakes are treated as an important part of the learning process, helping pupils to develop resilience and the confidence to make decisions and express their own ideas.

Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

A respectful classroom environment is promoted by encouraging pupils to listen to and value different mathematical approaches and opinions. Pupils learn that there can be several valid ways of approaching a problem and are expected to discuss differences constructively. Where appropriate, mathematical contexts and data can be used to explore different cultures, communities and societies, encouraging pupils to appreciate diversity and challenge assumptions. A few examples would be; ratio in world food recipes, Rangoli patterns and their origins, and mathematicians from various countries and cultures.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Education

At The Cornwall Independent School, Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) education is at the heart of our values and ethos. We believe in nurturing the whole child and encouraging every pupil to develop respect for themselves, others and the world around them. Through our commitment to kindness, empathy, integrity and responsibility, we foster a supportive and inclusive community where everyone feels valued and empowered to thrive.

We encourage pupils to embrace diversity, demonstrate tolerance, build resilience and reflect on their experiences and actions. By promoting these qualities, we help our young people become confident, compassionate and active citizens who are well prepared for life in modern Britain and able to make positive progress in every aspect of their learning and personal development.

Spiritual	Students' spiritual development involves the growth of their sense of self, their unique potential, their understanding of their strengths and weaknesses, and their will to achieve. As their curiosity about themselves and their place in the world increases, they try to answer for themselves some of life's fundamental questions. They develop the knowledge, skills, understanding, qualities and attitudes they need to foster their own inner lives and non-material wellbeing	Mathematics provides opportunities for pupils to experience a sense of curiosity, awe and wonder through exploring patterns, relationships and the structure of mathematics. Investigations involving number, geometry, infinity, probability and mathematical patterns encourage pupils to ask questions, make connections and appreciate the order and beauty of the subject. Pupils are also encouraged to reflect on their own thinking, recognise progress and develop a sense of achievement when overcoming challenging problems.
Moral	Students' moral development involves students acquiring an understanding of the difference between right and wrong and of moral conflict, a concern for others and the will to do what is right. They are able and willing to reflect on the consequences of their actions and learn how to forgive themselves and others. They develop the knowledge, skills and understanding, qualities and attitudes they need in order to make responsible moral decisions and act on them.	Mathematics provides opportunities to explore moral issues through real-life contexts involving money, finance, statistics, probability and data. Pupils can consider issues such as fairness, equality, responsible use of money and the reliability of information presented through statistics and graphs. They are encouraged to question data critically, recognise misleading representations and consider the consequences of decisions based on numerical information.

Social	Students' social development involves pupils acquiring an understanding of the responsibilities and rights of being members of families and communities (local, national and global), and an ability to relate to others and to work with others for the common good. They display a sense of belonging and an increasing willingness to participate. They develop the knowledge, skills, understanding, qualities and attitudes they need to make an active contribution to the democratic process in each of their communities.	Social development is supported through collaborative problem-solving, paired work and mathematical discussion. Pupils are encouraged to communicate their ideas clearly, listen to others and work cooperatively towards solutions. Group investigations provide opportunities for pupils to take different roles, support their peers and appreciate the contribution that different approaches can make to solving a problem.
Cultural	Students' cultural development involves pupils acquiring an understanding of cultural traditions and an ability to appreciate and respond to a variety of aesthetic experiences. They acquire a respect for their own culture and that of others, an interest in others' ways of doing things and curiosity about differences. They develop the knowledge, skills, understanding, qualities and attitudes they need to understand, appreciate and contribute to culture.	Mathematics provides opportunities for pupils to appreciate the contribution of different cultures and societies to the development of mathematical ideas. Pupils can explore the historical development of number systems, geometry, algebra and mathematical discoveries from different parts of the world. Mathematical problems can also use a range of cultural and international contexts, helping pupils recognise the universal nature of mathematics and appreciate different perspectives and traditions.

Overall, Mathematics at The Cornwall Independent School provides a wide range of opportunities to develop pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding while promoting the fundamental British Values. Through independent and collaborative problem-solving, mathematical discussion and the application of mathematics to real-life situations, pupils develop confidence, resilience, respect for others and the ability to think critically. The subject encourages pupils to question information, justify their opinions, make responsible decisions and appreciate different perspectives. In this way, Mathematics contributes not only to pupils' academic development but also to their preparation for life as thoughtful, respectful and responsible members of the wider community.