



# Church Walk C.E. Primary School

## Calculations Policy

### **Introduction**

At Church Walk, children are introduced to the processes of calculation through concrete, pictorial and abstract models and activities. Children's understanding of calculations is deepened through the use of conceptual variations so that they can apply their skills to a range of reasoning and problem solving situations. As children begin to understand the underlying ideas, they develop ways of recording to support their thinking and calculation methods. They use particular methods that apply to special cases, and learn to interpret the signs and symbols involved.

There is a considerable emphasis on teaching mental calculation strategies. We do this through using a combination of 'Big Maths' and the White Rose scheme as well as arithmetic sessions. Informal written recording takes place regularly and is an important part of learning and understanding. More formal written methods follow only when the child is able to use a wide range of mental calculation strategies. As a child's mental methods are strengthened and refined, so too are their informal written methods. Some recording takes the form of jottings, which are used to support children's thinking. This may be done on scrap paper or whiteboards and is not always retained as they are for the child's own personal use.

This policy contains the key pencil and paper procedures that will be taught within our school. It has been written to ensure consistency and progression throughout the school and reflects a whole school agreement.