# Mathematical Vocabulary 

Year 6

## Mathematics vocabulary list Year 6

Maths is its own language. Sometimes that language looks like written word and sometimes it looks like symbols, but it is a language and it must be learned for math fluency and competency. If a child does not have a good understanding of key mathematical vocabulary, it can hinder them in making good progress in maths and in other areas of the curriculum.

At Chapel End, we explicitly teach maths vocabulary, giving it a context and allowing children to apply it in a variety of problems.

Listed below are the key mathematical terms a child in Year 6 will learn this year. This is the minimum we expect children to learn; however, we know children are curious and will undoubtedly want to learn more and we encourage this.

| Vocabulary | Definition | Example |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number and Place Value |  |  |  |
| Brackets | The symbols ( ) used to separate parts of a multi-step calculation. | ${ }^{\prime}(10-2) \times 3=24{ }^{\prime}$ |  |
| Equivalent expression | An expression, which can be algebraic, which is equal in value to another expression. | 'Find an equivalent expression to 17 $+10.18+9$ is an equivalent expression to $17+10$. $^{\prime}$ |  |
| Order of operations | The internationally agreed order to complete operations in a multi-step equation with multiple operations. | $'(3+4) \times 2=$ <br> The order of operations dictates that the operation within the brackets is completed first.' <br> Ordering Mathematical Operations |  |
|  |  | B O D | $M A S$ |
|  |  |     <br> Onderser Division   <br> $(\ldots)$ $\sqrt{x}$ $x^{2}$ $\div$ |  |
| Addition and subtraction |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Multiplication and division |  |  |  |


| Factorise | To identify factors of a given number. To express a number as factors. | 'I can factorise 12 by looking at its factor pairs. $1 \times 12=12,2 \times 6=12,3$ $\times 4=12$. So the factors of 12 are 1,2 , 3, 4, 6 and 12.' |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Prime factor | A factor that is a prime number. <br> In other words: any of the prime numbers that can be multiplied to give the original number | 'The prime factors of 15 are 3 and 5 (because $3 \times 5=15$, and 3 and 5 are prime numbers)'. |
| Fractions, decimals, percentages |  |  |
| Ratio | A ratio shows the relative sizes of two or more values. | Example: <br> There are 3 triangles and 2 squares. <br> We can write the ratio as $3: 2 \text { or } 3 \text { to } 2 \text { or } \frac{3}{2}$ |
| Proportion | A comparison between two or more parts of a whole or group. Proportion expresses a partwhole relationship. This may be represented as a fraction, a percentage or a decimal. | 'Two thirds of a group of children were boys. The proportion of the group that is girls is one third.' |
| Algebra |  |  |
| Equation | An equation says that two things are equal. <br> It will have an equals "=" sign | 'That equation says: what is on the left $(7+2)$ is equal to what is on the right (10-1)' $7+2=10-1$ |
| Formula | An algebraic expression of a rule. | 'The area of a rectangle can be found by multiplying the width and height. $a=w \times h$. This is the formula'. |
| Unknown | A number we do not know. | 'In the equation below, $y$ is unknown but can be calculated. $y+17=100^{\prime}$ |
| Length |  |  |
| Feet/foot | An imperial unit of measure of length. | 'I am approximately five feet tall.' |


| Mile | An imperial unit of measure of length. | 'Five miles is equivalent to eight kilometres.' |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Yard | A unit of length (or distance) equal to 3 feet or 36 inches. | 'In football, the penalty spot in 12 yards from the goal line.' |
| Weight |  |  |
| Ounce | An imperial unit of measure of mass. | 'The new born baby had a mass of 6 pounds and 3 ounces'. |
| Tonne | A unit of mass equal to 1000 kilograms. | 'A small car weighs about 1 tonne'. |
| Capacity and volume |  |  |
| Centilitre | A metric unit of capacity, equal to one hundredth of a litre | 'There are 500 centilitres in this beaker. It is about the same 5 litres'. |
| Gallon | An imperial unit of measure of volume/capacity. | 'A gallon is approximately 4.5 litres.' |
| Temperature |  |  |
| Time |  |  |
| Money |  |  |
| Loss | If the income is less than the expenses. | 'Two days ago. Sam's Bakery received $\$ 480$, but expenses were $\$ 520$. $\$ 480-\$ 520=-\$ 40$, which is a $\$ 40$ loss'. |
| Profit | Income minus all expenses. | 'Sam's Bakery received \$900 yesterday, but expenses such as wages, food and electricity came to $\$ 650$. So the profit was $\$ 900-\$ 650$ $=\$ 250 .{ }^{\prime}$ |
| 2d shape |  |  |
| Arc | A portion of the circumference of a circle |  |


| Circumference | The perimeter/boundary of a <br> circle. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Compass | A tool for creating curved lines, <br> arcs and circles. |
| Intersect | The point at which two (or more) <br> lines meet is where they <br> intersect. |
| Diameter | A line from one point of the <br> circumference of a circle to <br> another on the opposite side, <br> which must pass through the <br> centre of the circle. |
| Radius of compasses to |  |
| object) with 12 Faces. |  |


| Net | A group of 2-D shapes which, when folded and connected, forms a 3-D polyhedron. | 'The net of a cube is comprised of six connected squares.' |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Position and direction |  |  |
| Origin | The point at which axes in a coordinates grid cross; the point $(0,0)$. |  |
| Vertically opposite angles | Angles which are positioned opposite to one another when two lines intersect. | The purple angles indicated are vertically opposite angles. |
| Statistics |  |  |
| Mean | The Arithmetic Mean is the average of the numbers: a calculated "central" value of a set of numbers. <br> To calculate it: <br> - add up all the numbers, <br> - then divide by how many numbers there are. | 'What is the mean of 2,7 and 9? <br> Add the numbers: $2+7+9=18$ <br> Divide by how many numbers (i.e. we added 3 numbers): $18 \div 3=6$ <br> So the mean is $6^{\prime}$. |


| Pie chart | A representation of a set of data where each segment represents one group in proportion to the whole. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Statistics | The study of data: how to collect, analyse, summarise and present it. |  |

