

Our Lady of Lourdes Secondary School



Numeracy Policy

School Name	Our Lady of Lourdes Secondary School
Address	Our Lady of Lourdes Secondary School Rosbercon, New Ross, Co Wexford
Telephone	051422177
Email	ololsecretary@gmail.com
Website	https://www.olol.ie

Numeracy Policy

School

Our Lady of Lourdes Secondary School, Rosbercon, New Ross, Co. Wexford is an All- Girls Voluntary Secondary School under the trusteeship of the Diocese of Ossory, funded by the Department of Education and Skills.

Mission Statement

“Our school is a learning Community based on faith, hope and love, where respect, responsibility and Christian commitment grow, allowing all our students to prepare for a meaningful life.”

Aims

Our Lady of Lourdes will adopt a whole school approach to numeracy to:

- Ensure an environment is developed in which a positive attitude towards numeracy is developed and monitored.
- Outline the importance of numeracy in every aspect of life.
- Improve students' confidence in numeracy.
- Provide students with the necessary and appropriate numeracy skills to assist them in solving problems in all subjects.
- Identify areas of strengths and weakness in numeracy and use this information to assist in our planning.

Scope

This policy pertains to all of the following partners in Our Lady of Lourdes involved in the enhancement of numeracy within the school. Their roles and responsibilities are outlined below.

- School Management
- All Teachers
- Learning Support Teachers

- Special Needs Assistants
- Students
- Parents

Definition of Numeracy

Numeracy is not limited to the ability to use numbers, to add, subtract, multiply and divide. **Numeracy encompasses the ability to use mathematical understanding and skills to solve problems and meet the demands of day-to-day living in complex social settings.** To have this ability, a young person needs to be able to think and communicate quantitatively, to make sense of data, to have a spatial awareness, to understand patterns and sequences, and to recognise situations where mathematical reasoning can be applied to solve problems.

Role and Responsibilities

Senior Management

The Principal and Deputy Principal will:

- Monitor the implementation of the policy by liaising with the relevant bodies involved.
- Facilitate CPD for staff if necessary.
- Establish structures and procedures (perhaps with the numeracy team) to aid the implementation of the numeracy policy.
- Make financial supports available to support the implementation of numeracy initiatives.
- Ensure the policy is reviewed after an appropriate length of time/in line with other policy reviews.

Numeracy Core Group will:

- Gather baseline data to facilitate the setting of yearly numeracy targets and to devise initiatives to help reach targets.
- Encourage the embedding of numeracy across all subjects.
- Evaluate the progress of numeracy strategies at various time intervals (to be decided in conjunction with senior management).

All Teachers will:

- Ensure that the agreed actions of the Numeracy Plan are implemented in teachers' practice.
- Ensure that Numeracy is included in subject planning and reviewed annually as a subject department.
- Have a print rich environment in classrooms.
- Where possible avail of CPD training that is numeracy focused.

Learning Support Teachers:

The school recognises the significant and important role of the learning support department in the area of numeracy.

The Learning Support teachers will identify students in need of support in the area of numeracy from the administration of entrance exams, CAT testing and shared results from standardised testing in primary school. It is envisaged that individuals in need of extra support will be identified from the aforementioned testing/results and helped accordingly. It is also envisaged that specific targets in relation to numeracy will be set for individuals identified and embedded in these students' Individual Educational Plans. Teaching and learning support strategies will be put in place for such students during

- One to one tuition
- Small group teaching classes

Students will:

- Openly engage with the schools numeracy initiatives.
- Adopt a positive attitude to all aspects of numeracy.
- Be fully committed to the schools ethos on numeracy.
- Familiarise themselves with the schools designated numeracy strategies.

Parents will:

- Engage in positive dialogue with their daughters around numeracy.
- Encourage their daughters' effort in the area of numeracy.
- Familiarise themselves with the schools numeracy policy and numeracy strategies and to fully support them.
- Engage in regular communication about numeracy with teachers at parent teacher meetings.

Review

Senior School Management will ensure that this policy is regularly reviewed and evaluated.

Approval

This policy has been approved by Our Lady of Lourdes Board of Management.

Signed: S. Byrne

Date: 12-2-2020

Chairperson,

Board of Management