

Hanley St Luke's Calculation Policy

This policy contains the key pencil and paper procedures that are to be taught throughout key stages one and two at Hanley St Luke's C of E Aided Primary School. It has been written to ensure fluency, consistency and clear progression throughout the school in accordance to the children's specific learning needs.

Although the main focus of this policy is on pencil and paper procedures. It is important to recognise that the ability to use and apply and to calculate mentally lies at the heart of numeracy. Children should be encouraged to have a go mentally and checking first if a written method is required.

Using and Applying and mental calculation is not at the exclusion of written recording. It should be seen as complementary to and not as separate from it. In every written method there is an important element of mental processing.

Written recording both helps children to clarify their thinking and supports and extends the development of more fluent and sophisticated mental strategies.

Each method will be taught to children working at that level or age according to specific assessment regardless of age, in this way children can be supported or extended as necessary.

Children should not be discouraged from using previously taught methods with which they are secure, while the new concepts are becoming embedded.

The long-term aim is for children to be able to select an efficient method of their choice within all four operations, that is appropriate for the given task. These methods show the clear progression from level to level.

The children should do this by always asking themselves:

- 'Can I do this in my head?'
- 'Can I do this in my head using drawings or jottings?'
- 'Do I need to use a written method?'
- 'Which written method is most appropriate?'