



Calculation Policy

Subtraction – Years 4-6

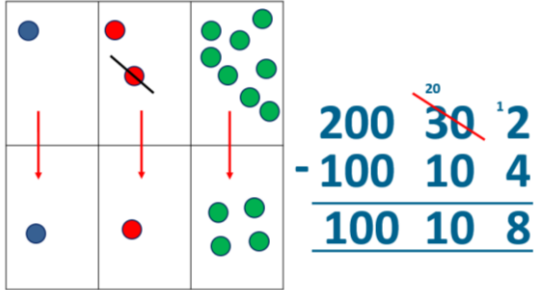


Missing number/digit problems: $456 + \square = 710$; $1\square7 + 6\square = 200$; $60 + 99 + \square = 340$; $200 - 90 - 80 = \square$; $225 - \square = 150$; $\square - 25 = 67$; $3450 - 1000 = \square$; $\square - 2000 = 900$

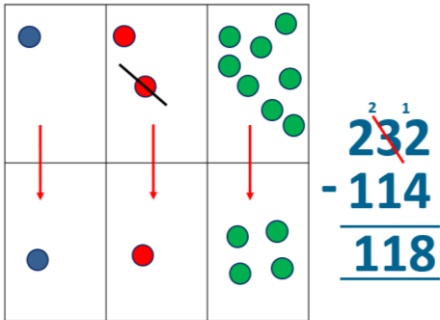
Mental methods should continue to develop, supported by a range of models and images, including the number line. The bar model should continue to be used to help with problem solving.

Written methods (progressing to 4-digits)

Expanded column subtraction with decomposition, modelled with place value counters, progressing to calculations with 4-digit numbers.



If understanding of the expanded method is secure, children will move on to the formal method of decomposition, which again can be initially modelled with place value counters.

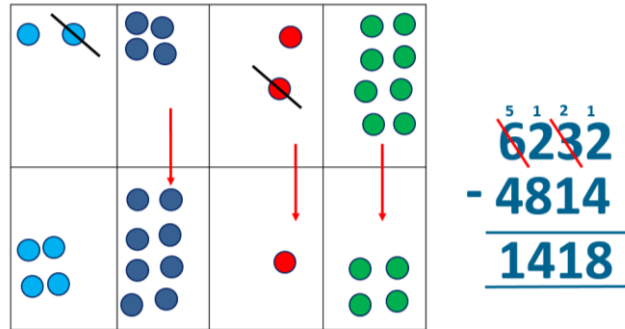


Missing number/digit problems: $6.45 = 6 + 0.4 + \square$; $119 - \square = 86$; $1\ 000\ 000 - \square = 999\ 000$; $600\ 000 + \square + 1000 = 671\ 000$; $12\ 462 - 2\ 300 = \square$

Mental methods should continue to develop, supported by a range of models and images, including the number line. The bar model should continue to be used to help with problem solving.

Written methods (progressing to more than 4-digits)

When understanding of the expanded method is secure, children will move on to the formal method of decomposition, which can be initially modelled with place value counters.



Progress to calculating with decimals, including those with different numbers of decimal places.

Missing number/digit problems: \square and $\#$ each stand for a different number. $\# = 34$. $\# + \# = \square + \square + \#$. What is the value of \square ? What if $\# = 28$? What if $\# = 21$

$10\ 000\ 000 = 9\ 000\ 100 + \square$
 $7 - 2 \times 3 = \square$; $(7 - 2) \times 3 = \square$; $(\square - 2) \times 3 = 15$

Mental methods should continue to develop, supported by a range of models and images, including the number line. The bar model should continue to be used to help with problem solving.

Written methods

As year 5, progressing to larger numbers, aiming for both conceptual understanding and procedural fluency with decomposition to be secured.

Teachers may also choose to introduce children to other efficient written layouts which help develop conceptual understanding. For example:

$$\begin{array}{r} 326 \\ -148 \\ -2 \\ -20 \\ \hline 200 \\ \hline 178 \end{array}$$

Continue calculating with decimals, including those with different numbers of decimal places.

Year 4 objectives

Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- add and subtract numbers with up to 4 digits using the formal written methods of columnar addition and subtraction where appropriate
- estimate and use inverse operations to check answers to a calculation
- solve addition and subtraction two-step problems in contexts, deciding which operations and methods to use and why.



Year 4 guidance

Notes and guidance (non-statutory)

Pupils continue to practise both mental methods and columnar addition and subtraction with increasingly large numbers to aid fluency (see [English Appendix 1](#)).



Year 5 objectives

Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- add and subtract whole numbers with more than 4 digits, including using formal written methods (columnar addition and subtraction)
- add and subtract numbers mentally with increasingly large numbers
- use rounding to check answers to calculations and determine, in the context of a problem, levels of accuracy
- solve addition and subtraction multi-step problems in contexts, deciding which operations and methods to use and why.



Year 5 guidance

Notes and guidance (non-statutory)

Pupils practise using the formal written methods of columnar addition and subtraction with increasingly large numbers to aid fluency (see [Mathematics Appendix 1](#)).

They practise mental calculations with increasingly large numbers to aid fluency (for example, $12\ 462 - 2300 = 10\ 162$).



Year 6 objectives

Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- multiply multi-digit numbers up to 4 digits by a two-digit whole number using the formal written method of long multiplication
- divide numbers up to 4 digits by a two-digit whole number using the formal written method of long division, and interpret remainders as whole number remainders, fractions, or by rounding, as appropriate for the context
- divide numbers up to 4 digits by a two-digit number using the formal written method of short division where appropriate, interpreting remainders according to the context
- perform mental calculations, including with mixed operations and large numbers
- identify common factors, common multiples and prime numbers
- use their knowledge of the order of operations to carry out calculations involving the four operations
- solve addition and subtraction multi-step problems in contexts, deciding which operations and methods to use and why

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Mathematics

Statutory requirements

- solve problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- use estimation to check answers to calculations and determine, in the context of a problem, an appropriate degree of accuracy.



Year 6 guidance

Notes and guidance (non-statutory)

Pupils practise addition, subtraction, multiplication and division for larger numbers, using the formal written methods of columnar addition and subtraction, short and long multiplication, and short and long division (see [Mathematics Appendix 1](#)).

They undertake mental calculations with increasingly large numbers and more complex calculations.

Pupils continue to use all the multiplication tables to calculate mathematical statements in order to maintain their fluency.

Pupils round answers to a specified degree of accuracy, for example, to the nearest 10, 20, 50 etc., but not to a specified number of significant figures.

Pupils explore the order of operations using brackets; for example, $2 + 1 \times 3 = 5$ and $(2 + 1) \times 3 = 9$.

Common factors can be related to finding equivalent fractions.

