

Temple Grafton C of E Primary School, Alcester

Background

Temple Grafton C of E Primary School is a small primary school of 104 pupils arranged among 4 classes, located in a rural village community. Pupils are almost entirely from village, farm and suburban homes and come from a variety of backgrounds, though mainly from professional families. Christian values are central to the school's ethos and there are strong links with the church. The school has achieved Healthy School status, Active Mark, and the Green Flag Eco-Schools award. It was judged to be *outstanding* in its last Ofsted inspection.

How the school uses 'I can do maths'

We introduced **I can do maths** 5 years ago in response to parent requests for help in supporting their children at home. We had also been finding it very challenging to set meaningful homework for such a wide range of ability levels.

We use the **Mental Maths** series with our Year 1 pupils and then the **Mental Arithmetic** books with Years 2 to 6. The books are used for a weekly homework task, with each book lasting the whole academic year. Tasks are allocated 'by stage not age', with pupils assessed using the **I can do maths** Entry test and allocated the most appropriate book for their mathematical ability, regardless of their age. Pupils do not necessarily move up from book to book but are assessed each year to ensure they are working at the correct level for them.

Pupils are grouped together in marking groups and meet weekly to mark homework and discuss areas of difficulty. Teachers are available each day from 1pm to 1.15pm to support pupils who are finding any questions difficult to fathom.

Comments from Ofsted

Ofsted commented in December 2011 that, 'In mathematics, the school has used a stepped approach to mathematics homework, based on pupils' levels of ability. This provides focussed opportunities to address errors and misconceptions directly and to teach the next steps in learning'. They also praised the fact that, 'Pupils make outstanding progress and, by the time they leave the school in Year 6, they have skills which are significantly above average overall'.

School details

Pupils: 104

% of EAL pupils: N/A

% of SEN pupils: 6

% free school meals: 6

Testimonials

I can do maths homework provides individualised mathematical learning for pupils of all abilities. It enables each child to work at their own speed and targets parental support in a purposeful way. The most able pupils are challenged and remain motivated. Our results in maths have been on an upward trajectory since we introduced it, putting us amongst the top performing primary schools in the country.

Sue Molloy
Headteacher

Key Stage 2 maths SATs results

