

## First Mental Arithmetic

# National Curriculum levels for mathematics

The table below suggests the approximate National Curriculum level that a child may have reached on completion of each **First Mental Arithmetic** book.

However, you – the teacher – should only use this information in conjunction with your own assessment of each child’s knowledge and understanding and his or her ability to put this knowledge into practice. The table provides no more than an indication of the level.

You will notice that for Books 2 to 6 two boxes are shaded each time. In order to decide whether the child is at the higher or the lower level, work out his or her average score on the sessions in the relevant book and then use the following guidelines.

### Books 2 and 3:

- if an average of **7 to 9** questions per session are answered correctly, the child may be at the higher level; if the average totals **6 or below**, the child may be at the lower level.

### Books 4 to 6:

- if an average of **25 to 30** questions per session are answered correctly, the child may be at the higher level; if the average totals **24 or below**, the child may be at the lower level.

**You must use your ongoing teacher assessment to confirm this judgement.**

Average score per book	Level 1c	Level 1b	Level 1a	Level 2c	Level 2b	Level 2a
Book 1	0–9					
Book 2	0–6	7–9				
Book 3		0–6	7–9			
Book 4			0–24	25–30		
Book 5				0–24	25–30	
Book 6					0–24	25–30

The average level expected for a child at the end of Year 2 is Level 2b.

## Next steps

Where children’s average scores per session are low, use a Diagnostic check from the **First Mental Arithmetic Teacher’s Guide** to pinpoint areas of weakness. As well as providing correct answers, the Diagnostic check marking keys suggest ‘activity prompts’ that you may use to help individuals with concepts that they find difficult. Once they show confidence in these concepts, they may return to the same **First Mental Arithmetic** book that they were using previously.

To order your copy of the **First Mental Arithmetic Teacher’s Guide** (ISBN 978 07217 1210 9), e-mail [sales@schofieldandsims.co.uk](mailto:sales@schofieldandsims.co.uk) or phone 01484 607080.