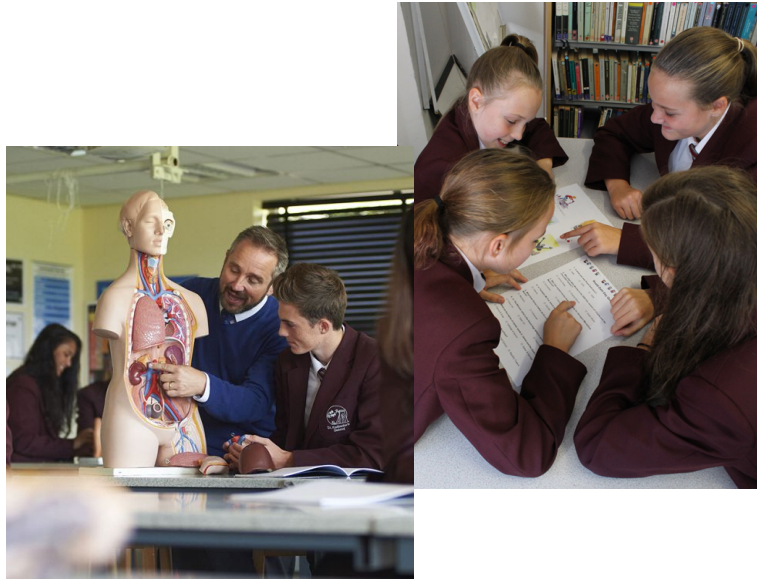


# Is your child secondary ready?



## TEAM ST KATHERINE'S

Working with you to support your child's future  
**#togetherstronger**



St. Katherine's School

# How can I support my child to develop their literacy skills?

If your child reads for ONLY 20 minutes per day they will read over 2,000,000 words per year!

## Reading - How can you help your child?



1. **Read!** As part of their homework all **students are expected to read for twenty minutes a day**. This could be independently; they could read to you; you could read a book together or they could read to a friend or extended family member.
2. **Make sure your child has a book in their bag every day** and check that they are regularly borrowing books from the school library.

To meet the expected standard for Year 7, your child needs to be able to show that they have **understood a text, use evidence from the text to support their opinions** and **consider how writers try to create particular effects**.

### Why not try?

- Reading together and then asking quick quiz questions about what you have just read.
- Asking your child what they think of the characters and why? - what does the writer tell us about a character that helps them to form a particular opinion?
- Stopping to watch the advertisements on television together: how is the advert using language to try and persuade you to buy the product?



## Writing - How can you help your child?

- Encourage them to write - and then read their work. Perhaps they could start a family diary, or write a story, or keep a record of book reviews.
- Read! The more a person reads, the better their writing will become. **Reading helps you to understand the rules of writing and widens vocabulary.**



To meet the expected standard for Year 7, **students need to be able to write clearly and accurately**. They need to be able to **use paragraphs, control their sentence structures**, and **use a range of punctuation**.

### Why not try?

- Writing a story together, a chapter at a time.
- Using Bristol University's **punctuation exercises website** to target grammar and punctuation areas for development.
- Asking your child to **write a diary for ten minutes every day** and **challenging them to write a little bit more every day**. This can be very good for reluctant writers.
- Making a **word bank** to collect all those wonderful new words.
- Dragon University - a great spelling game to help **iron out difficulties with spelling patterns**.



[http://www.bristol.ac.uk/arts/exercises/grammar/grammar\\_tutorial/page\\_41.htm](http://www.bristol.ac.uk/arts/exercises/grammar/grammar_tutorial/page_41.htm)

<http://www.wordgames.com/dragon-university.html>

# How can I support my child to develop their numeracy skills?

## 1. Securing Mental Maths Skills - Time Table Rockstars [www.trockstars.com/](http://www.trockstars.com/)

**Squeebles Times Tables Grid**

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
3	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36
4	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44	48
5	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
6	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72
7	7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70	77	84
8	8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80	88	96
9	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90	99	108
10	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
11	11	22	33	44	55	66	77	88	99	110	121	132
12	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144

Eg  $3^2 = 3 \times 3$

Eg  $4^2 = 4 \times 4$

This is an ability to recall the times table in your head. Mathematics is becoming increasingly reliant on a student's numeracy skills. It is essential that your child is confident in their basic numeracy skills. This enables pupils to transfer those skills to other topics in mathematics, such as algebra. Try getting your child to practice their times tables when walking up the stairs. Most homes have 13 steps on a staircase! You can also try it backwards! They could also start to learn square numbers (1,4,9,16,25,36,49...) and link this to their square root (1,2,3,4,5,6...)

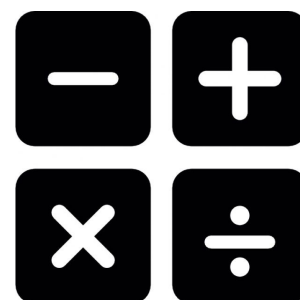
## 2. Understanding and Using Place Value

To understand the meaning of numbers

- What do the digits represent? 100's, 1000's etc
- e.g. 45,623 people attended Old Trafford on Saturday. What value does the 6 represent? What is the attendance to the nearest 1000?

## 3. Calculating with money and time

Telling the time. 12 and 24 hour time, converting minutes and seconds. Shopping with money. These skills enable a pupil to compare values in different units.



## 4. Reading Scales

This ability enables pupils to recognise different increments that are shown on different devices such as weighing, reading thermometer and following recipes.

- e.g. Making flapjacks; read the scales to get the right weight of oats

## 5. Interpreting Tables and Graphs

A vast amount of information is displayed in tables. Pupils need to be able to identify specific values or results and identify trends.

- e.g. Look at football league tables/weather tables in the front of papers/any graph that you find to identify values; goals scored or weather patterns.

# Useful links

## Maths games and puzzles

<http://studymaths.co.uk/coffeeBreakMenu.php>

**Corbett Maths** [@Corbettmaths](#)

Ask your child to tackle the 5-a-day....a daily challenge for the family?

Use your **school username and password** to log onto these sites

**Hegarty Maths** - <https://hegartymaths.com/>

**Time Table Rockstars** - <https://www.ttrockstars.com/>



Corbett  
maths

The more that you read,  
the more things you will know.  
The more that you learn,  
the more places you'll go.  
-- Dr. Seuss

# Everyday ideas...

Talking to your child as much as possible

Ask your child what they did at school (spark conversation from information in blog posts)

Reading the writing on cereal boxes and other packets in the kitchen

Discussing recipes and talking about how food is prepared

Reading and writing with your child

Joining the local library and borrowing books

Have books on tables/shelves at home

Look at magazines and comics or reading a blog together

Reading and telling a story every day

Sticking magnetic alphabet letters on the refrigerator

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For technical queries or log on difficulties please call ICT Support on 01275 373737 ext 228

For support, please contact Ms Wild [wildi@skdrive.org](mailto:wildi@skdrive.org) for literacy and Mr Britton [brittonr@skdrive.org](mailto:brittonr@skdrive.org) for numeracy

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