Literacy and Numeracy Framework Policy
Mission Statement

Brecon High School is committed to raising the standards of numeracy and literacy of all of its pupils, so that they develop the ability to use these skills effectively in all areas of the curriculum and to cope confidently with the demands of everyday life and lifelong learning.

The teacher responsible for over-seeing implementation and embedding of the LNF is Mrs Melanie Watts, Director of Learning Skills.
The Literacy Coordinator is Mrs Linda Jones.
The Numeracy Coordinator is Mr Mark Humphreys.
The lead governor for Literacy is Mrs Cath North.
The lead governors for Numeracy are Mr Julian Edwards and Mr Tim John.

The National Context

Definition of Literacy
“Literacy is the use of language skills in daily activities at school, at home, at work, and in the community. It involves both using literacy skills and knowing how to use English and Welsh. Literacy describes a set of skills, including speaking, listening, reading and writing, which enable us to make sense of the world around us. Literacy is not narrowly about the mechanics of being able to decode the words on a page or write a grammatically correct sentence, although these are essential skills in their own right. It is about the skills needed to understand written and spoken language, to interpret what has been written or said, and draw inferences from the evidence that surrounds us. It is also about being able to communicate in our turn – fluently, cogently and persuasively. Literacy is based on reading, writing and oral language development across all subject areas.”
(National Literacy and Numeracy Framework information document 120/2013)

Expected characteristics of a literate pupil:
Literate pupils have essential life skills, and are able to apply these skills across the curriculum in different subject areas and in real-life contexts. They can understand the world around them. They have an understanding of written and spoken language. Literate pupils can interpret what has been written or said, and can draw inferences from the evidence around them. They can communicate accurately, fluently and persuasively.

Definition of Numeracy
‘Numeracy is not the same as mathematics. Numeracy is proficiency with number that is acquired through being taught mathematics well. Although pupils usually learn their numeracy skills during mathematics lessons, to be fully numerate they must be able to apply these skills in other subject areas and real-life contexts.’

Expected characteristics of a numerate pupil:
‘Numerate individuals are able to function responsibly in everyday life and contribute effectively to society. Numerate pupils are able to handle numbers fluently in mental, oral and written work, exploit patterns within number when calculating and approximating; measure and calculate accurately and estimate...
The LNF

Implementation of the LNF became a statutory curriculum requirement from September 2013, with assessment against the LNF becoming a statutory requirement from September 2014.

Aims:

- To support teachers of all subjects in identifying and providing opportunities for learners to apply numeracy and literacy across the curriculum in accordance with the requirements of the LNF.
- To determine learner progress in numeracy and literacy and the next steps.
- To ensure effective cross curriculum planning for skills.
- To provide a framework for continued development, clearly setting out annual expected statements in numeracy and literacy and progression indicators for learners with additional learning needs.

Curriculum Planning:

- The LNF is first and foremost a curriculum planning tool that supports all teachers to embed numeracy and literacy in their teaching of the curriculum.
- Current curriculum planning has been adapted to support cross curricular planning using the LNF and tasks are set that aim to introduce, consolidate, apply and make progress in specific numeracy and literacy skills.
- Although the LNF identifies age-appropriate numeracy and literacy skills, planning will need to take into account the different abilities of the pupils.
- The development of skills should be progressive with each skill, having been taught in language or mathematics lessons, then practised and consolidated elsewhere as required by the skill itself or the individual child.

Policy Aims:

- To develop a whole school approach to addressing literacy and numeracy needs across the curriculum.
- To enable all pupils to develop their skills in numerical reasoning, using number, measuring and data skills (Numeracy) and in reading, writing and oracy [Literacy].
- To be able to transfer and apply these skills in order to enable them to access learning across all areas of the curriculum.
- To encourage staff to take responsibility for the development and implementation of the National Literacy and Numeracy Framework (LNF) in their subject areas through inclusion in schemes of work and lesson plans.

Policy Commitment:

- Literacy and numeracy is the responsibility of all staff.
- All staff are responsible for acting as role models in the use of literacy and numeracy skills.
- All staff are expected to promote the value of literacy and numeracy skills in learning.
• Staff must actively identify, intervene and support pupils who display difficulty in any or all areas of literacy or numeracy.
• Effective use is to be made of literacy and numeracy intervention.
• Staff must actively intervene, support and challenge pupils who display particular talents in any/all aspects of literacy and numeracy.
• If staff are uncertain about the best course of action they should seek the advice of their line manager, any member of senior staff or the Literacy or Numeracy co-ordinator.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Director of Learning Skills working with Senior Leaders should:

• Actively support and drive the policy of improved literacy and numeracy for all.
• Help to manage, sustain, develop and evaluate the Literacy and Numeracy policy.
• Support the commitment to literacy and numeracy in the School Development Plan.
• Identify the school’s particular curriculum and assessment needs, consider the possibilities and come to decisions about the organisation of the whole curriculum and the planning of learning pathways to suit the needs of individual learners.
• Identify opportunities for and facilitate the sharing of good practice within the school.
• Monitor the range of teaching and learning activities, ensuring that approaches are fully integrated.
• Review and update teaching pedagogy through the provision of appropriate coaching/training, establishing inter- and/or intra-school Professional Learning Communities using outstanding teachers in literacy and numeracy to support development.
• Work with the Literacy and Numeracy co-ordinators and ALENCO to coordinate feedback to parents/carers.
• Monitor, evaluate and report to governors on standards of literacy and numeracy throughout the school and the impact of actions aimed at raising these standards.
• Ensure that all staff understand and accept they have a responsibility to improve literacy and numeracy skills both through their teaching and day-to-day contact with pupils.
• Facilitate the improvement of literacy and numeracy skills by arranging an ongoing programme of training and support across the curriculum.
• Make suitable resources available to promote this policy.
• Place great importance on the role of parents and seek to fully involve them in supporting and promoting the development of their child’s literacy and numeracy skills.

ALENCO should:

• Track and monitor pupils’ literacy and numeracy skills and identify pupils for intervention.
• Use relevant data e.g. from the National Reading and Numeracy tests to identify pupils in need of intervention.
• Source, implement and maintain meaningful interventions programmes.
• Use Teaching Assistants to deliver interventions and monitor pupil progress and plan for improvement.
• Maintain and regularly review the intervention arrangements for pupils with additional needs.
Liaise regularly with the Director of Learning Skills and the Literacy and Numeracy coordinators regarding the progress of pupils on the intervention programmes.

**The Numeracy/Literacy Coordinator should** work with Senior Leaders, the Director of Learning Skills, Curriculum Leaders, Class Teachers, Higher Level Teaching Assistants and Teaching to

- Support subjects in the development and implementation of literacy and numeracy and ensure they are aware of the latest developments from the Welsh Government.
- Ensure the policy is implemented and work with the Senior Leadership Team to evaluate and update it annually.
- Track and monitor extra-curricular activities for more able and talented pupils.
- Work with key teachers from across the cluster on development of primary-secondary transition for literacy and numeracy.
- Use the analysis of literacy and numeracy data to inform planning for improvement.
- Collect evidence of good practice in literacy and numeracy from across the curriculum.
- Review the LNF provision and identify opportunities to develop and apply literacy and numeracy skills.
- Identify areas of literacy and numeracy that teachers are least confident of teaching within the context of a particular subject and discuss with the Director of Learning Skills measures needed to address the identified issues.
- Work with KS3 tutors to increase exposure to literacy and numeracy activities during tutorial time.
- Ensure that new staff and newly qualified teachers (NQTs) are aware of the Literacy and Numeracy Framework policy and support them in school strategies.
- Attend training in order to implement the Literacy and Numeracy Framework (LNF) and keep up to date on any new initiatives.
- Work with staff to ensure that all teachers are aware of the content of the LNF and the teaching and learning strategies in numeracy and literacy that are appropriate to the whole curriculum.
- Assist classroom teachers in identifying opportunities for the application of numeracy and literacy skills from the LNF, within their schemes of work.
- Raise awareness of the resources available to support and challenge pupils of all abilities.
- Monitor and evaluate the delivery of the LNF throughout the school.
- Highlight the need and arrange for any necessary training.
- Assist with the development of the use of rich tasks to embed and assess literacy and numeracy skills.
**Curriculum Leaders should**

- Ensure and sustain literacy and numeracy as a priority in both departmental policy and delivery so that all Schemes of Work include literacy and numeracy objectives taken from the National Literacy and Numeracy Framework for Wales. These objectives will inform what is taught, how it is taught, what is learnt and how it is assessed. Literacy and numeracy should also form part of activities outside the classroom wherever opportunities lie.
- Monitor the effective implementation of literacy and numeracy by members of their department.
- Identify and share good practice.
- Analyse and synthesise assessment data to support improvement.
- Track provision and raise any concerns regarding the development of literacy and numeracy.
- Work closely with other subject areas through the Literacy and Numeracy co-ordinators to coordinate schemes of work, including timing of teaching specific strategies and concepts relating to the LNF.
- Ensure consistency in the application of literacy and numeracy skills linked to the LNF across the subject area and all teaching staff.
- Monitor and evaluate the impact of these approaches on standards of learning for their subject areas.
- Ensure that the skills from the LNF are delivered consistently within the subjects of English and Mathematics.
- Ensure all staff are aware of the numeracy and literacy resources available and how they might link to specific subjects.

**The Class Teacher should**

- Use the LNF as a starting point for medium term and weekly planning.
- Reinforce and develop pupils’ numeracy and literacy skills.
- Be aware of individual pupils’ numeracy and literacy needs and address those needs appropriately.
- Develop and update own skills, knowledge and understanding of numeracy and literacy.
- Use the numeracy methods that are agreed within the school’s mathematics policy.
- Use the literacy methods that are agreed within the school’s English policy.
- Gauge the level of difficulty of a task in terms of numeracy and literacy and differentiate appropriately.
- Provide feedback to the co-ordinators or ALENCO where an individual pupil’s progress in numeracy or literacy is causing concern.
- Provide a narrative report to parents on pupil’s numeracy and literacy progress across the curriculum, (assessed against the expectations of the LNF from September 2014).
- Provide many and varied opportunities for pupils to develop their literacy and numeracy skills across the school day and across all subjects in the curriculum.
- Be familiar with the literacy and numeracy toolkits.
• Support the development of pupils’ literacy skills in line with the school’s Reading, Writing and Oracy policies.

Teaching assistants and coaches should:

• Be familiar with the LNF.
• Understand the importance of literacy and numeracy skills in relation to raising standards of work in pupils.
• Support literacy and numeracy skills development in lessons.
• Monitor the progress of individuals and report concerns.
• Be familiar with the literacy and numeracy toolkits.

Pupils should

• Use and apply literacy and numeracy skills consistently across the curriculum as directed by subject staff.

Parents should

• Up-date their knowledge of the LNF in order to understand how it can support their child’s literacy and numeracy skills.

Involving governors

• Governors should be made aware of the LNF and of any developments within the school in respect of its implementation.
• The school should have a named Governor for literacy and numeracy across the curriculum.
• Governors should be given opportunities to observe good practice in the delivery of the LNF across the curriculum.

Assessment

The LNF is primarily a curriculum planning tool. It is also an assessment tool and is intended to be used formatively by schools and individual teachers to support learner progress and curriculum planning. It will be used to identify learners’ current strengths and areas for development, to be shared by teachers. Progression through the LNF will demonstrate how learners are performing against the expectations for numeracy and literacy at the end of each academic year.

From September 2014 teachers will use the LNF to assess and report to parents on individual progress. These reports will be narrative, not a ‘best-fit’ approach, will form the basis for informed discussion with learners, parents/carers and will identify the next steps for improvement.
The LNF and the National Tests

In addition to the LNF and the formative, narrative assessments made against it national numeracy and literacy tests are in place. The numerical processes and numerical reasoning tests and the reading test will be taken by all pupils unless there are exceptional circumstances. The school will inform the parent/carer and the LEA of any disapplied pupils, giving reasons, and in accordance with Welsh Government guidelines. Similarly, if it is considered appropriate that a child takes the test of an age group below that of his/her peer group, the decision will follow discussion with parents/carers, as a progress score will not then be available for that child.

The numerical processes and literacy tests will provide summative data, which will be collected and analysed in school, using the diagnostic tools available, and nationally (as part of the national accountability model.) This data will give teachers clear indicators of skill development and progress, and will contribute to the annual judgements teachers make about learners’ skill acquisition. The data will also be used to inform school improvement.

Assessment against the LNF and the outcomes of the two numerical and the literacy tests will give different perspectives on learners’ progress, reflecting the fact that they are assessing slightly different aspects of the same skills. For example the processes test is a snapshot, summative view while the reasoning test and assessment against the LNF will draw on a far broader range of evidence. Where test results seem to contradict outcomes against the LNF or the reasoning test, teachers will need to consider the reasons for any difference and address them appropriately.

Evaluation

The Policy will be monitored and reviewed through:

- The School and departmental development plans.
- Lesson observation / Learning Walks.
- Sampling of pupils’ work.
- Whole school literacy and numeracy audits.
- Discussion with staff, parents and governors.
- Analysing assessment data including bench marking with Family of Schools, the local authority and Wales.
- Pupil voice activities.

The Literacy and Numeracy Link Governors will support the evaluation process.

Communication

- The LNF can be viewed on the Learning Wales website.
- Copies of this policy are to be available on the Brecon High School website, in the Staff Handbook, in the LNF area and on request.
- There is an internal whole school electronic literacy and numeracy area which contains all relevant documentation including the Development Plan.
- Department handbooks will contain further guidance.
- The Literacy and Numeracy Toolkits can be viewed on the LNF area.
- The full Reading, Writing and Oracy policies can be viewed on the LNF area.