

This is the way we do it!



An introduction to the progression in
written calculation at iCAN

6th February 2016

“They didn’t do it like that in my day!”

Do your children ask for help with their maths and then start talking in a foreign language, using words like ‘partitioning’, ‘chunking’, ‘grid multiplication’.....?

If the answer is yes, then hopefully this presentation will provide some of the necessary translation!

What do you mean by 'Progression in Written Calculation'?

Every primary school in the UK follows a set progression between the written methods that are taught from Y3 through to Y6 for each operation (+, -, \times and \div)

The purpose of the progression is to ensure that every child develops a 'tool kit' of written methods, that they can confidently use, understand and apply when faced with a given mathematical situation or problem.

Progression between the methods is decided by the class teacher and/or the child.

Progression is determined by each child, based on their level of confidence and understanding of a given method (through teacher and self assessment).

For example, if a Y3 child is not ready to move on to a more advanced written method (that is deemed appropriate for that given year group), they will be given opportunities to develop confidence in their preferred method before moving on.

“But what’s wrong with teaching them my way?”

Nothing is wrong with the way we were taught.

However...

The National Numeracy Strategy (NNS), that sets out the recommended methods, is based on a vast amount of research into finding the ‘best’ ways for primary children to learn, apply and truly understand what is happening when they use a given written method. They must comprehend the PLACE VALUE implications!

What are the main advantages?

- The children understand what they are doing; they can 'talk the walk'!
- Clear and gradual progression between methods (children can appreciate the similarities between the taught methods)
- Children advance when they are ready.
- Raised expectations – if and when children are confident, they can move on to a more efficient method.

Becoming more familiar with the way we do it!

- Written methods for addition
- Written methods for subtraction
- Written methods for multiplication
- Written methods for division