

# **ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

## **Progression towards a standard method of calculation**

### **Introduction**

The National Numeracy Strategy provides a structured and systematic approach to the teaching of calculation.

There is considerable emphasis in teaching mental calculation methods.

Up to year 4 informal written recording should be practised regularly and is an important part of the children's learning and understanding.

More formal written methods follow when a child is able to use a wide range of mental strategies with confidence.

At St. Francis we have developed a consistent approach to the teaching of written calculations in order to establish continuity and progression throughout the school.

### **Aims**

- Children should be able to choose an efficient method whether mental, written or calculator appropriate to the given task.
- By the end of year 6, children working at level 4 and above will have been taught, and be secure with, a compact standard method of calculation for each operation.

### **General Progression**

- Establish mental methods, based on a good understanding of place value
- Use of informal jottings to aid mental calculation
- Develop the use of empty number lines to aid mental imagery and recording
- Use partitioning and recombining to aid informal methods
- Introduce expanded written methods
- Develop expanded methods into compact standard written form