

# Mathematical Vocabulary Checklists

## YEAR 6

## Numbers and the number system

### PLACE VALUE, ORDERING AND ROUNDING

units, ones  
tens, hundreds, thousands  
ten thousand, hundred thousand, million  
digit, one-, two-, three- or four-digit number  
numeral  
'teens' number  
place, place value  
stands for, represents  
exchange  
the same number as, as many as  
equal to  
Of **two** objects/amounts:  
>, greater than, more than, larger than, bigger than  
<, less than, fewer than, smaller than  
≥, greater than or equal to  
≤, less than or equal to  
Of **three** or more objects/amounts:  
greatest, most, largest, biggest  
least, fewest, smallest  
one... ten... one hundred... one thousand more/less  
compare, order, size  
ascending/descending order  
first... tenth... twentieth  
last, last but one  
before, after  
next  
between, half-way between  
guess how many, estimate  
nearly, roughly, close to, about the same as  
approximate, approximately  
≈, is approximately equal to  
just over, just under  
exact, exactly  
too many, too few, enough, not enough  
round (up or down), nearest  
round to the nearest ten/hundred/thousand  
integer, positive, negative  
above/below zero, minus

### PROPERTIES OF NUMBERS AND NUMBER SEQUENCES

number, count, how many...?  
odd, even  
every other  
how many times?  
multiple of  
digit  
next, consecutive  
sequence  
continue  
predict  
pattern, pair, rule

relationship  
sort, classify, property  
formula  
divisible (by), divisibility, factor, **factorise**  
square number  
one squared, two squared... ( $1^2, 2^2 \dots$ )  
**prime, prime factor**

### FRACTIONS, DECIMALS, PERCENTAGES, RATIO AND PROPORTION

part, equal parts  
fraction, proper/improper fraction  
mixed number  
numerator, denominator  
equivalent, reduced to, cancel  
one whole  
half, quarter, eighth  
third, sixth, ninth, twelfth  
fifth, tenth, twentieth  
hundredth, **thousandth**  
proportion, ratio  
in every, for every  
to every, as many as  
decimal, decimal fraction  
decimal point, decimal place  
percentage, per cent, %

## Calculations

### ADDITION AND SUBTRACTION

add, addition, more, plus, increase  
sum, total, altogether  
score  
double, near double  
how many more to make...?  
subtract, subtraction, take (away), minus, decrease  
leave, how many are left/left over?  
difference between  
half, halve  
how many more/fewer is... than...?  
how much more/less is...?  
equals, sign, is the same as  
tens boundary, hundreds boundary  
units boundary, tenths boundary  
inverse

### MULTIPLICATION AND DIVISION

lots of, groups of  
times, multiply, multiplication, multiplied by  
multiple of, product  
once, twice, three times... ten times...  
times as (big, long, wide... and so on)  
repeated addition  
array, row, column  
double, halve

share, share equally  
 one each, two each, three each...  
 group in pairs, threes... tens  
 equal groups of  
 divide, division, divided by, divided into  
 remainder  
 factor, quotient, divisible by  
 inverse

**USING A CALCULATOR**

calculator, display, key  
 enter, clear, **sign change**  
 constant, **recurring, memory, operation key**

**Solving problems**

**MAKING DECISIONS AND REASONING**

pattern, puzzle  
 calculate, calculation  
 mental calculation  
 method, strategy  
 jotting  
 answer  
 right, correct, wrong  
 what could we try next?  
 how did you work it out?  
 number sentence  
 sign, operation, symbol, equation

**MONEY**

money  
 coin, note  
 penny, pence, pound (£)  
 price, cost  
 buy, bought, sell, sold  
 spend, spent  
 pay  
 change  
 dear, costs more, more/most expensive  
 cheap, costs less, cheaper, less/least expensive  
 how much...? how many...?  
 total, amount, value, worth  
 discount, **profit, loss**  
 currency

**Handling data**

count, tally, sort, vote  
 survey, questionnaire  
 data, database  
 graph, block graph, line graph  
 pictogram,  
 represent  
 group, set

list, chart, bar chart, bar line chart  
 tally chart  
 table, frequency table  
 Carroll diagram, Venn diagram  
 label, title, axis, axes  
 diagram  
 most popular, most common  
 least popular, least common  
 mode, range, **mean, average, median**  
**statistics, distribution**  
 maximum/minimum value  
 classify, outcome

**PROBABILITY**

fair, unfair  
 likely, unlikely, likelihood, **equally likely**  
 certain, uncertain  
 probable, possible, impossible  
 chance, good chance,  
 poor chance, no chance  
**equal chance, even chance, fifty-fifty chance**  
 risk, doubt  
**biased, random**

**Measures, shape and space**

**MEASURES (GENERAL)**

measure, measurement  
 size  
 compare  
 unit, standard unit  
 metric unit, imperial unit  
 measuring scale, division  
 guess, estimate  
 enough, not enough  
 too much, too little  
 too many, too few  
 nearly, roughly, about, close to  
 about the same as, approximately  
 just over, just under

**LENGTH**

length, width, height, depth, breadth  
 long, short, tall, high, low  
 wide, narrow, deep, shallow, thick, thin  
 longer, shorter, taller, higher... and so on  
 longest, shortest, tallest, highest... and so on  
 far, further, furthest, near, close  
 distance apart/between, distance to... from...  
 edge, perimeter, **circumference**  
 kilometre (*km*), metre (*m*)  
 centimetre (*cm*), millimetre (*mm*)  
 mile, **yard, feet, foot, inches, inch**  
 ruler, metre stick, tape measure, compasses

# YEAR 6

---

## MASS

mass: big, bigger, small, smaller, balances  
weight: heavy/light, heavier/lighter, heaviest/lightest  
weigh, weighs  
tonne, kilogram (*kg*), half-kilogram, gram (*g*)  
pound (*lb*), ounce (*oz*)  
balance, scales

---

## CAPACITY

capacity  
full, half full, empty  
holds, contains  
litre (*l*), half-litre, centilitre (*cl*), millilitre (*ml*)  
pint, gallon  
container, measuring cylinder

---

## AREA

area, covers, surface  
square centimetre (*cm<sup>2</sup>*), square metre (*m<sup>2</sup>*)  
square millimetre (*mm<sup>2</sup>*)

---

## TIME

time  
days of the week: Monday, Tuesday...  
months of the year: January, February...  
seasons: spring, summer, autumn, winter  
day, week, fortnight, month  
year, leap year, century, millennium  
weekend, birthday, holiday  
calendar, date, date of birth  
morning, afternoon, evening, night  
am, pm, noon, midnight  
today, yesterday, tomorrow  
before, after, next, last  
now, soon, early, late, earliest, latest  
quick, quicker, quickest, quickly  
fast, faster, fastest, slow, slower, slowest, slowly  
old, older, oldest, new, newer, newest  
takes longer, takes less time  
how long ago? how long will it be to...?  
how long will it take to...?  
timetable, arrive, depart  
hour, minute, second  
o'clock, half past, quarter to, quarter past  
clock, watch, hands  
digital/analogue clock/watch, timer 24-  
hour clock, 12-hour clock  
Greenwich Mean Time, British Summer Time  
International Date Line  
how often?  
always, never, often, sometimes, usually

---

## SHAPE AND SPACE

shape, pattern  
flat, line  
curved, straight  
round

hollow, solid  
corner  
point, pointed  
face, side, edge, end  
sort  
make, build, construct, draw, sketch  
centre, radius, diameter  
circumference, concentric, arc  
net  
surface  
angle, right-angled  
congruent  
intersecting, intersection  
plane  
base, square-based  
vertex, vertices  
layer, diagram  
regular, irregular  
concave, convex  
open, closed  
tangram

---

## 3D SHAPES

3D, three-dimensional  
cube, cuboid  
pyramid  
sphere, hemi-sphere, spherical  
cone  
cylinder, cylindrical  
prism  
tetrahedron, polyhedron, octahedron, dodecahedron

---

## 2D SHAPES

2D, two-dimensional  
circle, circular, semi-circle  
triangle, triangular  
equilateral triangle, isosceles triangle, scalene triangle  
square, rhombus  
rectangle, rectangular, oblong  
pentagon, pentagonal  
hexagon, hexagonal  
heptagon  
octagon, octagonal  
polygon  
quadrilateral  
kite  
parallelogram, trapezium

---

## PATTERNS AND SYMMETRY

size  
bigger, larger, smaller  
symmetrical  
line of symmetry, axis of symmetry  
line symmetry, reflective symmetry  
fold  
match  
mirror line, reflection, reflect  
pattern, repeating pattern, translation

**POSITION, DIRECTION AND MOVEMENT**

position  
 over, under, underneath  
 above, below, top, bottom, side  
 on, in, outside, inside, around  
 in front, behind, front, back  
 before, after, beside, next to  
 opposite, apart  
 between, middle, edge, centre  
 corner  
 direction  
 journey, route, map, plan  
 left, right  
 up, down, higher, lower  
 forwards, backwards, sideways, across  
 close, far, near  
 along, through, to, from, towards, away from  
 ascend, descend  
 grid, row, column  
 origin, coordinates  
 clockwise, anti-clockwise  
 compass point, north, south, east, west (N, S, E, W)  
 north-east, north-west, south-east, south-west  
 (NE, NW, SE, SW)  
 horizontal, vertical, diagonal  
 parallel, perpendicular  
 x-axis, y-axis  
 quadrant  
 movement  
 slide, roll  
 whole turn, half turn, quarter turn, rotate, rotation  
 angle, ...is a greater/smaller angle than  
 right angle, acute, obtuse, **reflex**  
 degree  
 straight line  
 stretch, bend  
 ruler, set square  
 angle measurer, compasses, protractor

**Instructions**

listen, join in, say, recite  
 think, imagine, remember  
 start from, start with, start at  
 look at, point to, show me  
  
 put, place  
 arrange, rearrange  
 change, change over  
**adjusting, adjust**  
 split, separate  
  
 carry on, continue, repeat  
 what comes next? predict  
 describe the pattern, describe the rule  
  
 find, find all, find different  
 investigate

choose, decide  
 collect  
  
 use, make, build, construct, bisect  
  
 tell me, **define**, describe, name, pick out, identify  
 discuss, talk about  
 explain  
 explain your method/answer/reasoning  
 give an example of...  
 show how you...  
 show your working  
 justify  
 make a statement  
  
 read, write, record  
 write in figures  
 present, represent  
 interpret  
 trace, copy  
 complete, finish, end  
  
 fill in, shade, colour  
 label, plot  
  
 tick, cross  
 draw, sketch  
 draw a line between, join (up), ring, arrow  
  
 cost, count, tally  
  
 calculate, work out, solve, convert  
  
 investigate, **interrogate (data)**, question, **prove**  
 answer  
 check

**General**

same, **identical**, different  
 missing number/s  
 number facts, number pairs, number bonds  
 greatest value, least value  
  
 number line, number track  
 number square, hundred square  
 number cards, number grid  
 abacus  
 counters, cubes, blocks, rods  
 die, dice, spinner  
 dominoes  
 pegs, peg board, pin board geo-  
 strips  
  
 same way, different way  
 best way, another way  
 in order, in a different order  
  
 not  
 all, every, each

## **Mathematical dictionaries**

Every classroom needs a mathematical dictionary, suited to the age of the children. This could either be a published version, or one which the children have made themselves. As well as being useful for children to look up the meanings of words, it will be on hand when the teacher needs to refer to a mathematical dictionary.