



Developing a strong grounding in number is essential so that all children develop the necessary building blocks to excel mathematically. Children should be able to count confidently, develop a deep understanding of the numbers to 10, the relationships between them and the patterns within those numbers.

		Number	Numerical Patterns
Nursery 1 (3-4)	3 Years Old	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has fast recognition of up to 3 objects, without having to count them individually ('subitising'). Knows that a group of things changes in quantity when something is added or taken away. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recites numbers past 5. Knows that the last number reached when counting a small set of objects tells you how many there are in total ('cardinal principle'). Begins to link numerals and amounts: e.g., showing the right number of objects to match the numeral, up to 5.
Nursery 2 (3-4)	4 Years Old	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Says one number for each item in order: 1,2,3,4,5. Experiments with their own symbols and marks as well as numerals. Solves real world mathematical problems with numbers up to 5. Compares quantities using language: 'more than', 'fewer than'. Recalls some number bonds to 5. Recognises numerals 1 to 5. Counts actions or objects which cannot be moved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begins to count forwards and backwards up to 5. Rote counts to higher numbers. Show 'finger numbers' up to 5. Links numerals and amounts: for example, showing the right number of objects to match the numeral, up to 5. Talks about and explores 2D and 3D shapes (for example, circles, rectangles, triangles and cuboids) using informal and mathematical language: 'sides', 'corners'; 'straight', 'flat', 'round'. Understands position through words alone - EG: "The bag is under the table," - with no pointing. Describes a familiar route. Discusses routes and locations, using words like 'in front of' and 'behind'. Talks about and identifies the patterns around them. EG: stripes on clothes, designs on rugs and wallpaper. Use informal language like 'pointy', 'spotty', 'blobs' etc. Extends and creates ABAB patterns - stick, leaf, stick, leaf. Notices and corrects an error in a repeating pattern. Begins to describe a sequence of events, real or fictional, using words such as 'first', 'then...'

Reception	5 Years Old	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can subitise up to 5 objects. • Links the number symbol (numeral) with its cardinal number value. • Children compare numbers, using the vocabulary 'more than', 'less than', 'fewer', 'the same as', 'equal to'. • Understands the 'one more than/one less than' relationship between consecutive numbers. • Begins to estimate how many they can see and checks by counting. • Explores the composition of numbers to 10. • Recalls number bonds for numbers 0-10. • Can compose and decompose shapes so that children recognise a shape can have other shapes within it, just as numbers can. • Selects the correct numeral to represent 1 to 5, then 1 to 10 objects. • Finds the total number of items in two groups by counting all of them. • Says the number that is one more than a given number • In practical activities begin to use the vocabulary involved in addition and subtraction. • Solve single digit addition and subtraction problems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count objects, actions and sounds. • Play card games such as snap or matching pairs where the children identify similarities and differences. • Counts verbally beyond 10. • Begins to identify when items haven't been distributed evenly. • Can select, rotate and manipulate shapes in order to develop spatial reasoning skills. • Continue, copy and create repeating patterns. • Compare length, weight and capacity. • Is able to identify errors in a repeating pattern. • Finds 2D shapes within 3D shapes, including through printing or shadow play. • Order numbers 1-20. • Practically solve halving, doubling and problems.
	Statutory ELG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has a deep understanding of numbers to 10, including the composition of each number. • Can subitise (recognise quantities without counting) up to 5. • Automatically recalls (without reference to rhymes, counting or other aids) number bonds up to 5 (including subtraction facts) and some number bonds to 10, including double facts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verbally count beyond 20, recognising the pattern of the counting system • Compare quantities up to 10 in different contexts, recognising when one quantity is greater than, less than or the same as the other quantity. • Explores and represent patterns within numbers up to 10, including evens and odds, double facts and how quantities can be distributed equally.