

Maths Mental Calculation Strategies

Operation	Vocabulary	Mental Methods (informal)	Written Methods (formal)
Addition	 Deconstruct Partition Boundary number 	Count up – when the number added does not cross a boundary number Near doubles – e.g. 63 + 61 Partition the 2 nd number – adding 2d or 3d numbers Compensation – when the number added ends in 8 or 9 Bridging – when the number added takes you over a boundary number Refined number line – steps on a number line written as calculations rather than as a jotting Images: 100 square (snakes and ladders set up), beadstring, 100 square with cubes, coins, dienes, number lines, jumps on pre or part numbered number lines	Empty number line Column addition (exchange below the line)

Subtraction

- Deconstruct
- Partition
- Boundary number
- Taking away
- Finding the difference

Count back – when the number added doesn't cross a boundary number

Finding the difference (what was 'Silly Subtraction') – when numbers are relatively close together

Partition the 2nd number ONLY – subtracting 2d or 3d numbers

Compensation – subtracting a number ending in 8 or 9 **Bridging** – when the number subtracted crosses a boundary number

Refined number line – steps on a number line written as calculations rather than as a jotting

Always subtract underneath the numberline

Images: 100 square (snakes and ladders set up), beadstring, 100 square with cubes, coines, dienes, number lines, jumps on pre or part numbered number lines

Empty number line

Column subtraction (exchange below the line)

Division	DividendDivisorQuotientRemainder	Sharing – early but inefficient (links to fractions) Grouping (chunking) – efficient for when dividends increase (links to multiplication) 20/5 = 'How many 5s are there in 20?'	Empty number line (chunking)
		Use bead strings to model. Halving - dividing by 2 Halving twice - dividing by 4 Move digits - dividing by 10, 100 etc	Long division (exchange below the line)
		Divide by 10 and double - dividing by 5 Divide by 100 and double - dividing by 50 Remainders – 'out of the next group ofwe have' (natural experiences of this from an early age) Refined number line – steps on a number line written as calculations rather than as a jotting	Short division (bus stop)
		Model with arrays and number lines Images: pictures, tallies, systematic mark making, arrays, record hops on a part numbered number line)	

\subseteq
0
•
at
ິບ
=
.=
±
3
5

•	Refinement
	of repeated
	addition

- Multiplier
- Multiplicand

4 x 3 = 4 + 4 + 4 (3 rows of 4 in an array) 3 x 4 = 3 + 3 + 3 + 3

(4 rows of 3 in an array)

Once children know their times tables...

Doubling – x 2 (may still involve partitioning)

Double, double again – x4 (may still involve doubling)

Compensation - x 9 (x10 then take one group away)

Move digits – x 10 (not add zero!)

X 10 and halve - x 5 (show with an array of x 10 then split in half)

Partition – e.g. 32 x 6 becomes 30 x 6 and 2 x 6 (model on an array)

Images: pictures, tallies, systematic mark making, arrays, record hops on a part numbered number line)

Short multiplication

Long multiplication (carry below the line)