

# Document A: Questions for listening to pupils

## Younger pupils in the foundation phase

- Can you play a game with me? Where would I be if I was (point): under the cupboard/on top of the chair/by the side of the whiteboard/inside the climbing frame? (positional language)
- Spread some objects out on a table: How many 'books' are there on the table? Pile/group them carefully: how many are there now? (Can they count/conserve number?)
- What do you do if you cannot work something out?

## Older pupils in the foundation phase

- What type of numeracy/mathematics do you like best – working with numbers, measuring, finding out about shapes or working with data?
- What do you find easy about numeracy/mathematics?
- What do you find difficult about numeracy/mathematics?
- Do you know the pairs of numbers that go to together to make 10? What about 20 or 100?
- Tell me what happens when you halve or double a number?
- Do you sometimes plan how to solve a number problem? Do you sometimes plan with a friend or in a group?
- What do you do if you cannot work an answer out in mathematics?
- Do you sometimes do numeracy/mathematics work on the computer?
- Tell me how you worked this out.

## Pupils in key stage 2

- What type of numeracy/mathematics do you like best – working with numbers, measuring, finding out about shapes or handling data?
- Do you use your numeracy/mathematics skills in others areas such as geography and science? If yes, can you think of an example?
- What do you find easy about mathematics?
- What do you find difficult about mathematics?
- Do you use the computer to create graphs, charts and diagrams?
- What do you do if you can't work out an answer?
- Do you know what happens to a number when you multiply or divide it by 10 or 100?
- What strategies do you use to help you work out your times tables?
- How do you check your answers?
- Tell me how you worked this out.
- Can you show me a piece of work where you used mathematics outside of a maths

lesson? Can you explain what you have done?

- Can you show me some work where you have solved a problem that involved numbers? Can you explain your thinking?

## **Pupils in key stage 3**

- Are you making progress in improving your numerical skills? How do you know?
- What is your attitude towards numeracy? Do you think it's important to have good numeracy skills? Why?
- Do you know what you have to do to improve your numerical skills further?  
Examples
- How often do you use your number work in other subjects?
- Can you think of examples where you have used mathematics such as number work, graphs, shape, etc. in subjects other than mathematics?
- How easy or difficult has this work been e.g. are you able to use a calculator when unsure?
- Do you think that subjects other than mathematics help you to reinforce and develop your number skills?
- Do teachers let you explore on your own or with your peers how you might want to use different methods for calculating solutions to your problem?
- If you get a calculation wrong, do you have the opportunity to discuss this with your teacher and or peers, and to correct/improve your work? Can you show me some examples?