
Introduction

1. Description

Mental Arithmetic for Key Stage 2

Schofield & Sims Mental Arithmetic provides carefully graded practice in mathematics. Comprising seven pupil books with accompanying books of answers, plus this one **Teacher's Guide** covering the whole series, it is designed primarily for Key Stage 2 pupils, with Books 1 to 4 aimed at pupils in Years 3 to 6. However, the Introductory Book may also be suitable for use at Key Stage 1, and Books 5 and 6 provide a bridge to Key Stage 3. All the books may be used flexibly, to suit your own purposes: a few ideas for use are given on pages 6 and 9 – and to these you will be able to add many other ideas of your own.

The term 'mental arithmetic' is usually associated with spoken questions that the pupil works out in his or her head before providing a verbal or written answer. However, pupils using **Schofield & Sims Mental Arithmetic** read the questions themselves and often use rough paper to calculate their answers, which are then written down so you, the teacher, are able to check them later.

This **Teacher's Guide** is designed to support you as you use **Schofield & Sims Mental Arithmetic** in your classroom. It introduces the series, describes how the Entry test may be used to select the right pupil book for each pupil or class, and explains how the books are best used on a day-to-day basis. It also tells you how to use the seven Diagnostic checks, which relate separately to each pupil book and are administered if a pupil is having difficulties.

Two sets of resources are provided. The **Assessment resources** support you in your selection of the most appropriate pupil book. As well as providing copymasters for the Entry test and Diagnostic checks, and marking keys for all these items, this section also includes Contents pages from each of the seven pupil books. These will show you in detail the areas of maths that are covered in each book. The **General resources** provide a Group record sheet and include a variety of other useful items that will help you to develop pupils' maths skills.

Using the series with older and younger pupils

At Key Stage 3

By popular request, Schofield & Sims provides the **Mental Arithmetic** pupil books in an alternative format – for use at Key Stage 3 and beyond with students who may be struggling with the work normally given to their age group. The content of this second set of books is exactly the same, but the covers are designed for older students and bear the slightly revised title, **Essential Mental Arithmetic**.

Essential Mental Arithmetic can also be used as a baseline skills programme at the start of Key Stage 3, or at the beginning of any maths-related course, to bring all students up to the same level before further teaching begins.

The **Mental Arithmetic** books of answers are fully compatible with the **Essential Mental Arithmetic** pupil books. Similarly the content of this **Teacher's Guide** is as applicable to **Essential Mental Arithmetic** as it is to the main **Mental Arithmetic** series. The Entry test and Diagnostic checks provide excellent support for Key Stage 3 students and their teachers.

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Books For Key Stage 2 ->>->>->>
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