



5 TOP TIPS FOR: DEVELOPING CALCULATION FLUENCY



1. STUDENTS NEED INSTANT RECALL SKILLS AROUND NUMBER BONDS, TIMES TABLES ETC. PRACTISE THESE REGULARLY AND SYSTEMATICALLY IN LOTS OF DIFFERENT FORMATS.
2. USE REPRESENTATIONS TO DEVELOP KEY CONCEPTS BEFORE MOVING ON TO THE SYMBOLIC, FORMAL METHODS.
3. ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO DEVELOP WRITTEN METHODS ALONGSIDE THE USE OF MANIPULATIVES. SUPPORTING THE TRANSITION AWAY FROM THE USE OF EQUIPMENT.
4. INTRODUCE METHODS IN A COHERENT SEQUENCE ACROSS YOUR SCHOOL. A GOOD WHOLE SCHOOL CALCULATION POLICY THAT REFERENCES MODELS, TECHNIQUES AND CORE RECALL SKILLS IS VITAL.
5. INTRODUCE 'NUMBER TALKS' IN YOUR CLASSROOM AND CHANGE THE EMPHASIS FROM FINDING THE RIGHT ANSWER TO CELEBRATING DIFFERENT APPROACHES. HOW MANY DIFFERENT WAYS CAN YOUR STUDENTS CALCULATE 18×5 ? FLEXIBLE THINKING AND THE ABILITY TO PICK THE MOST EFFICIENT STRATEGY IS THE ESSENCE OF FLUENCY.