



The Wilkie Way

Newsletter August 2024

www.wilkieway.co.nz

Press release: by Christopher Luxon & Erica Stanford (4 August 2024)

The Government will transform maths education to tackle New Zealand's chronic problem with maths and set kids – and New Zealand – up for success, Prime Minister Christopher Luxon and Education Minister Erica Stanford say.

New data from the Curriculum Insights and Progress Study (CIPS) shows just 22 per cent of Year 8 students in New Zealand are at the expected curriculum benchmark for mathematics. It shows just 12 per cent of Māori students are where they should be and that 63 per cent of the overall Year 8 cohort are more than a year behind.

“That means last year, around 50,000 children in Year 8 did not meet the expected curriculum benchmark for maths. There's no way to describe those results as anything other than a total system failure,” Mr Luxon says.

“These figures are appalling, but I suspect not a surprise for many parents who I know are frustrated and despondent about the progress of their children.

Whether it's the curriculum, teacher training or priorities within the education system – for years, we have not been setting kids up for success. And if we aren't setting our kids up for success, we aren't setting New Zealand up for success.

For these results to change, the system needs to change and that is why our Government is taking swift action to transform maths education.”

Ms Stanford is launching the first three components of 'Make It Count' - a maths action plan that will take effect from the start of next year.

“In line with our shift to structured literacy to change the way kids learn to read and write, we will bring forward the rollout of a new structured maths curriculum for year 0-8 students a year earlier than planned. It's about getting the focus of our curriculum back to the basics.

“What that means for parents is that from Term 1 next year, children will be learning maths based on a new world-leading, knowledge-rich maths curriculum based on the best from across the OECD like Singapore and Australia, adapted for New Zealand.

“To support teachers to make this change, the Government will be working with a range of providers to introduce teacher guides and student workbooks that will go into classrooms across New Zealand.

“The expectations for what children must learn each year will be clearly laid out, so parents know exactly what their kids will be learning from the start of next year.

“Secondly, we need to support teachers, so they have the confidence to teach kids maths. That's why we're shifting \$20 million to become available for professional development in maths.

“But to build a pipeline of great teachers we also need to lift the standard for new teachers. That’s why it’s good news that the Teaching Council has agreed that anyone wanting to train to become a teacher must have at least NCEA Level 2 maths.

“And finally, there will be small group interventions for students who are falling significantly behind curriculum level, informed by twice-yearly standardised assessments for maths in primary schools announced earlier in the year, which are being implemented from the start of 2025.

“These changes will build on others we’ve already implemented or announced. Transforming maths achievement is another step towards closing the equity gap and giving our children every opportunity to succeed, and setting New Zealand up for future prosperity.”

Make It Count – Maths Action Plan

Curriculum

- A new maths curriculum will be introduced a year early, from Term 1 2025, with resources available to support teachers.
- Resources, including teacher and student workbooks will be provided into every primary and intermediate school.

Workforce

- \$20 million for professional development in structured maths for teachers.
- Teaching Council agreed to lift maths entry requirements for new teachers.

Assessment

- Twice yearly assessments for maths in primary schools from the start of 2025.
- Small group interventions to support students who have fallen significantly behind.

Wilkie Way Membership Update

Over the last month I have begun to reorganise resources in the dropbox to align with the refreshed curriculum phase model.

Ultimately the directory page will have new look with the aim of making it easy to find resources for a specific phase and topic.

Already you will notice the Teacher Handbook Resources have gone - this is because they have been incorporated into their topics. Over 100 resources have been added to the Place Value section. (This will be renamed as Numbers & The Number System when the directory page is updated)

Over 100 resources have been added to Fractions, Decimals and Percentages.

The video lessons have been moved to the Geometry section, Two lessons in Phase One, Four lessons in Phase Two (Two of these lessons can also be found in the measurement section as they span both areas) One lesson in Phase Three.

The Concept Word Problems are being sorted into their topic areas and will disappear as a separate heading on the directory page.

Basic Fact folders for Addition & Subtraction and for Multiplication and Division sit under their respective topic headings but can also be found under the Algebra heading. Recall of basic facts and the properties of arithmetic can be found under Algebra in the refreshed curriculum as there is a strong focus on patterns and relationships.

Phase One Addition and Subtraction has been sorted into three distinct sections:

1. Learning to Count (also placed in Foundational Resources as it pulls together many of the resources found separately in this area)
2. Counting to Add and Subtract
3. Add and Subtract without Counting

Each of these areas have teacher notes for building teacher conceptual knowledge - the first enabler for good practice as identified in the Making it Count research document.

“To support students to build their understanding, teachers themselves need to properly understand the concepts and ideas that sit behind Year 1-3 maths content, as well as the content that will be covered in the senior levels of primary school.”

I have been pleased to welcome many new individual members to Wilkie Way resources. Please remember an individual membership does not allow you to legally share resources with your colleagues.

The more members we have the longer we can keep the subscription rate as low as possible despite rising costs. (Being online is not free!)

I am especially pleased to welcome a number of new school subscriptions. (I have made it easier to find the school subscription by placing a link to the form for payment by invoice on the home page of wilkieway.co.nz)

With this subscription everyone with a school email address has access with their own membership login and password. (For many schools this also includes their teacher aides who source resources for specific students.) Resource sharing within the school is not only allowed but actively encouraged. The planning and assessment support allows for consistency and continuity across the school. (This area will be reviewed when we have the final refreshed curriculum)

This is the second enabler in the Making it Count research document

“Teachers’ school settings can promote good maths practice through a clear, shared understanding of quality maths teaching. This involves clearly setting out what maths teaching and maths progress looks like in a documented, structured whole school curriculum.”

Wilkie Way Membership - annual subscriptions

PURCHASE AN
INDIVIDUAL
MEMBERSHIP

NZ School
Subscription

via invoice

Use these links on the home page of wilkieway.co.nz

Individuals please purchase a membership before creating an account as your account will not be activated unless a payment has been made. (\$55 via Paypal)

There is no automatic roll over of subscriptions - members will be notified close to expiry and invited to re subscribe by Purchasing a new subscription.

School membership - via invoice

Under 30 students \$60 + GST

31 to 100 students \$160+GST

101 - 300 students \$260 + GST

301- 500 students \$360 +GST

501 - 700 students \$460 + GST

701+ students \$560 + GST

Non NZ School \$660 - paid via paypal

Schools can add new members at any time during the time their subscription is valid.

All email addresses are added to the newsletter list. If the email is no longer valid the member will be removed from the school listing.





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Problems with Cars

32 children are going on a trip.
4 children can go in each car.
How many cars are needed?



Kerry went on a car trip. Google maps said it would be 234km.
She stopped for a break after 95km.
How much further has Kerry got to go?



At the beginning of August, the car odometer read 78647
The car travelled 1896km during the month.
What was the odometer reading at the end of the month?



A new car cost \$63 950.
The garage offered a 5% discount **and** a trade in of any car of \$14 000.
How much would the new car cost, assuming you traded in your old car?

