



# Dublin City Schools K-12 Mathematics Education Grade Course of Study Vision

## Vision

In Dublin City Schools, we believe in an education where mathematics is not only a fundamental part of every student's education, but a source of inspiration, curiosity, and real-world problem solving skills that can prepare all students for success in an increasingly complex and interconnected world.

We believe in developing mathematicians by providing students high quality experiences designed to:

- View mathematics as a powerful tool for understanding and improving the world around them.
- Refine critical thinking skills in order to analyze problems, assess information, and make informed decisions.
- Think flexibly and creatively with numbers in order to connect conceptual understanding with concrete situations.
- Develop skills such as perseverance, grit, and tenacity in order to embrace challenges and learn from mistakes.
- Cultivate a mathematical mindset that emphasizes the balance of fluency (efficiency, flexibility, accuracy) alongside conceptual understanding.
- Reflect upon their thinking, and the thinking of others, to examine the reasonableness of strategies and solutions while gaining self-efficacy as a lifelong learner.

## Instructional Agreements for Mathematical Learning within the Dublin City Schools

- Content standards will be learned in partnership with the Standards for Mathematical Practice in order to empower students to reason abstractly and quantitatively, make sense of problems and persevere in solving them, use appropriate tools strategically, attend to precision, think critically, communicate clearly, and collaborate effectively.
- Teachers will provide opportunities for students to share ideas, communicate their mathematical thinking, and learn from each other's perspectives, fostering a supportive learning community where students can take risks with confidence.
- A variety of instructional techniques and tools will be utilized to support students to create and connect different mathematical representations.
- Teachers will design experiences for students to recognize the real-world relevance of math by exploring and applying mathematical principles to solve authentic problems.
- Teachers will provide students with actionable feedback to support their growth as mathematicians.
- Differentiated instruction will ensure a challenging yet supportive learning environment that supports all students in achieving their full potential.

Together, we will create mathematically empowered learners prepared to navigate the challenges and opportunities ahead with a love of learning, a sense of curiosity, and the skills necessary for success.



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**K–12 Course Mathematical Practices:**

***1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.***

Mathematically proficient students start by explaining to themselves the meaning of a problem and looking for entry points to its solution. They analyze givens, constraints, relationships, and goals. They make conjectures about the form and meaning of the solution and plan a solution pathway rather than simply jumping into a solution attempt. They consider analogous problems, and try special cases and simpler forms of the original problem in order to gain insight into its solution. They monitor and evaluate their progress and change course if necessary. Older students might, depending on the context of the problem, transform algebraic expressions or change the viewing window on their graphing calculator to get the information they need. Mathematically proficient students can explain correspondences between equations, verbal descriptions, tables, and graphs or draw diagrams of important features and relationships, graph data, and search for regularity or trends. Younger students might rely on using concrete objects or pictures to help conceptualize and solve a problem. Mathematically proficient students check their answers to problems using a different method, and they continually ask themselves, “Does this make sense?” They can understand the approaches of others to solving complex problems and identify correspondences between different approaches.

***2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.***

Mathematically proficient students make sense of quantities and their relationships in problem situations. They bring two complementary abilities to bear on problems involving quantitative relationships: the ability to decontextualize—to abstract a given situation and represent it symbolically and manipulate the representing symbols as if they have a life of their own, without necessarily attending to their referents—and the ability to contextualize, to pause as needed during the manipulation process in order to probe into the referents for the symbols involved. Quantitative reasoning entails habits of creating a coherent representation of the problem at hand; considering the units involved; attending to the meaning of quantities, not just how to compute them; and knowing and flexibly using different properties of operations and objects.

***3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.***

Mathematically proficient students understand and use stated assumptions, definitions, and previously established results in constructing arguments. They make conjectures and build a logical progression of statements to explore the truth of their conjectures. They are able to analyze situations by breaking them into cases, and can recognize and use counterexamples. They justify their conclusions, communicate them to others, and respond to the arguments of others. They reason inductively about



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data, making plausible arguments that take into account the context from which the data arose. Mathematically proficient students are also able to compare the effectiveness of two plausible arguments, distinguish correct logic or reasoning from that which is flawed, and—if there is a flaw in an argument—explain what it is. Elementary students can construct arguments using concrete referents such as objects, drawings, diagrams, and actions. Such arguments can make sense and be correct, even though they are not generalized or made formal until later grades. Later, students learn to determine domains to which an argument applies. Students at all grades can listen or read the arguments of others, decide whether they make sense, and ask useful questions to clarify or improve the arguments.

#### **4. Model with mathematics.**

Mathematically proficient students can apply the mathematics they know to solve problems arising in everyday life, society, and the workplace. In early grades, this might be as simple as writing an addition equation to describe a situation. In middle grades, a student might apply proportional reasoning to plan a school event or analyze a problem in the community. By high school, a student might use geometry to solve a design problem or use a function to describe how one quantity of interest depends on another. Mathematically proficient students who can apply what they know are comfortable making assumptions and approximations to simplify a complicated situation, realizing that these may need revision later. They are able to identify important quantities in a practical situation and map their relationships using such tools as diagrams, two-way tables, graphs, flowcharts and formulas. They can analyze those relationships mathematically to draw conclusions. They routinely interpret their mathematical results in the context of the situation and reflect on whether the results make sense, possibly improving the model if it has not served its purpose.

#### **5. Use appropriate tools strategically.**

Mathematically proficient students consider the available tools when solving a mathematical problem. These tools might include pencil and paper, concrete models, a ruler, a protractor, a calculator, a spreadsheet, a computer algebra system, a statistical package, or dynamic geometry software. Proficient students are sufficiently familiar with tools appropriate for their grade or course to make sound decisions about when each of these tools might be helpful, recognizing both the insight to be gained and their limitations. For example, mathematically proficient high school students analyze graphs of functions and solutions generated using a graphing calculator. They detect possible errors by strategically using estimation and other mathematical knowledge. When making mathematical models, they know that technology can enable them to visualize the results of varying assumptions, explore consequences, and compare predictions with data. Mathematically proficient students at various grade levels are able to identify relevant external mathematical resources, such as digital content located on a website, and use them to pose or solve problems. They are able to use technological tools to explore and deepen their understanding of concepts.



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**6. Attend to precision.**

Mathematically proficient students try to communicate precisely to others. They try to use clear definitions in discussion with others and in their own reasoning. They state the meaning of the symbols they choose, including using the equal sign consistently and appropriately. They are careful about specifying units of measure, and labeling axes to clarify the correspondence with quantities in a problem. They calculate accurately and efficiently, express numerical answers with a degree of precision appropriate for the problem context. In the elementary grades, students give carefully formulated explanations to each other. By the time they reach high school they have learned to examine claims and make explicit use of definitions.

**7. Look for and make use of structure.**

Mathematically proficient students look closely to discern a pattern or structure. Young students, for example, might notice that three and seven more is the same amount as seven and three more, or they may sort a collection of shapes according to how many sides the shapes have. Later, students will see  $7 \times 8$  equals the well remembered  $7 \times 5 + 7 \times 3$ , in preparation for learning about the distributive property. In the expression  $x^2 + 9x + 14$ , older students can see the 14 as  $2 \times 7$  and the 9 as  $2 + 7$ . They recognize the significance of an existing line in a geometric figure and can use the strategy of drawing an auxiliary line for solving problems. They also can step back for an overview and shift perspective. They can see complicated things, such as some algebraic expressions, as single objects or as being composed of several objects. For example, they can see  $5 - 3(x - y)^2$  as 5 minus a positive number times a square and use that to realize that its value cannot be more than 5 for any real numbers  $x$  and  $y$ .

**8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.**

Mathematically proficient students notice if calculations are repeated, and look both for general methods and for shortcuts. Upper elementary students might notice when dividing 25 by 11 that they are repeating the same calculations over and over again, and conclude they have a repeating decimal. By paying attention to the calculation of slope as they repeatedly check whether points are on the line through  $(1, 2)$  with slope 3, middle school students might abstract the equation  $(y - 2)/(x - 1) = 3$ . Noticing the regularity in the way terms cancel when expanding  $(x - 1)(x + 1)$ ,  $(x - 1)(x^2 + x + 1)$ , and  $(x - 1)(x^3 + x^2 + x + 1)$  might lead them to the general formula for the sum of a geometric series. As they work to solve a problem, mathematically proficient students maintain oversight of the process, while attending to the details. They continually evaluate the reasonableness of their intermediate results.



**Dublin City Schools**  
**Algebra I/Geometry/Algebra II Connections**  
**Graded Course of Study**

**Algebra I / Geometry / Algebra II Connections Course Goals:**

Algebra I/Geometry/Algebra 2 Connections provides an opportunity for students to receive additional instructional support as they study and develop mathematical strategies that lead to understanding and success in the companion course. Students learn and apply these strategies to accomplish academic and math fluency across the curriculum. In addition, they work with their instructor to evaluate strengths and needs of foundational mathematical concepts, then establish personalized goals for mathematical growth.

Students will experience instruction and practice focused around individual needs by increasing mathematical understanding of their coursework in the following ways:

- Implementing regular use of the eight mathematical practices.
- Developing mathematical fluency from conceptual understanding.
- Using multiple visual models and contextual learning to cultivate their understanding of mathematical topics.
- Representing abstract mathematical ideas using verbal, pictorial and concrete representations.
- Regular use of mathematical terms that support understanding.

This course offers students the opportunity to select from customized study strategies for success across the curriculum based on individualized need. Strategies may include:

- Goal setting and motivation.
- Concentration and memory development.
- Learning style, brain dominance and multiple intelligences.
- Listening and note taking.
- Organizing information from texts (graphic organizers).
- Time management and organization.
- Strategies for test preparation, test taking, and overcoming test anxiety.
- Practice opportunities for state testing.
- 21st century life and career skills, including critical thinking, problem solving, oral and written communication strategies, and technological literacy.



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**Course Content Standards:**

<b>Strand</b>	<b>Content Statement</b>
<b>BUILDING NUMBER SENSE AND FLUENCY</b>	Make sense of what numbers mean and understand their relationship to one another.
	Perform mental math, understand symbolic representations, and can use those numbers in real world situations.
	Think and reason flexibly with numbers, use numbers to solve problems, spot unreasonable answers, understand how numbers can be taken apart and put together in different ways, see connections among operations, figure mentally, and make reasonable estimates.
	Understand five components that characterize number sense: number meaning, number relationships, number magnitude, operations involving numbers and referents for numbers, referents for numbers and quantities.
	Build confidence with numbers.
	Gain procedural fluency through conceptual understanding.
<b>STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT AND PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS</b>	Use a variety of strategies to comprehend mathematical text and demonstrate understanding.
	Use problem-solving strategies to increase confidence when approaching larger problems.
	Analyze complex activities in order to deconstruct a problem into individual tasks.
<b>COMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT</b>	Understand and use stated assumptions, definitions, and previously established results in constructing arguments.
	Justify their conclusions, communicate them to others, and respond to the arguments of others.