



NUMICON CASE STUDY

Goodyers End Primary School



School Profile

Head Teacher: **Rose Daniels**

Town: **Bedworth**

LA: **Warwickshire**

Pupils on roll: **350**

Ofsted: **Good, February 2013**

Free School Meals: **25%**

English as an Additional Language: **2%**

“
Pupils are
enthusiastic and
recognise how
Numicon helps with
their understanding.
”

How long have Goodyers End Primary School been using *Numicon*?

The school have been using *Numicon* since 2011, from Reception to Year 4, as their core resource for maths teaching.

Why did they choose to use *Numicon*?

Goodyers End Primary School ‘were looking for a physical resource to develop children’s basic number concepts, including number bonds and tens and units, in a practical, kinaesthetic, visual way.’ They wanted to provide ‘firm foundations’ for younger children to take forward.

After researching the options available to help them, they found *Numicon*, and visited schools already using it to find out more. What they saw at these schools inspired them to introduce *Numicon* at Goodyers End Primary, at first piloting it with lower attainers in Year 3 through their MaST teacher, before going on to introduce it across all lower year groups. Rose Daniels notes how Foundation Stage in particular ‘embraced the apparatus and approach very quickly’.

What has been the trend of improvement since using *Numicon*?

Since starting to use *Numicon*, the school has moved from being graded ‘satisfactory’ by Ofsted, to being ‘good’ and no longer has maths identified as a specific area for improvement.

What do pupils think of *Numicon*?

The Head Teacher says that ‘children use *Numicon* practically for problem-solving’. They ‘are confident and happy to use the apparatus’, as well as more generally being ‘enthusiastic’ about maths. She says that her pupils really recognise how *Numicon* helps with their understanding.

What do they think are the strengths of *Numicon*?

The school have found that starting children with *Numicon* in the early stages of their maths career provides them with ‘stronger foundations to build from in Key Stage 2’, with children going on to achieve results broadly in line with national expectations.

Goodyers End Primary School would definitely recommend *Numicon* to other schools.