

# The Whole-School Approach to Mathematics K-6 Model

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"The key to school improvement lies less in the implementation of silver-bullet solutions and more in ongoing school-wide learning about how to improve on current practices."

Australian Council for Educational Research, 2016

Masters, GN. (2016). Schools as Learning Organisations. Camberwell: Australian Council for Educational Research.



## Understanding the Whole-School Approach Model

The Whole-School Approach Model represents a synthesis of elements drawn from academic research and teaching and leadership experience in Australian primary schools; all known to create an effective approach to the teaching and learning of mathematics. The model contains two layers: the outer orange circle demonstrating the elements of 'Culture and Beliefs' and the inner circle demonstrating the 'Behaviours and Practices' which combine to create a powerful whole-school approach.

## The whole-school approach suite of resources and how to use them

This model was designed in conjunction with two other tools:

- Health Check: A Whole-School Approach to Mathematics K-6
- The 10-minute Planning Guide: A Whole-School Approach to Mathematics K-6

Here's how to use them:

STEP 1 - Use The Whole-School Approach Model to identify the 17 elements required for the effective teaching and learning of mathematics.

STEP 2 - Reflect on your school's context and current reality and diagnose its strengths and weaknesses by completing the Health Check document.

STEP 3 - Bring it all together with a plan of action strategically informed by your own reflections, using the 10-minute Planning Guide.

## About the authors

This model was created by Tim Waugh and Anita Chin, two Australian primary mathematics consultants with more than fifty years' combined experience.

Passionate about building the next generation of deep mathematical thinkers, Anita and Tim believe a whole-school approach is the essential ingredient to transforming the teaching and learning of mathematics in primary schools.

Their aim is to help primary schools move from 'islands of good practice' to a positive whole-school maths culture and to enhance student learning outcomes through consistent high-quality classroom practice. This approach requires strategic planning and implementation, as well as shared beliefs and aligned practices from all educators within the school.

For more information on how to maximise the power and potential of the whole-school approach, please contact us directly at:

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