

no problem book 1 : useful notes

- ⊙ These problems were originally designed to challenge and extend able pupils in the yr6 – yr8 age group.
- ⊙ No maths knowledge or skills are required beyond those of a yr6 pupil; in particular, no knowledge of algebra is needed.
- ⊙ Calculators are not required for any of the problems but may be used freely.
- ⊙ The aim of the book is to enhance both the problem-solving skills of pupils and their confidence and willingness to tackle the new and the unfamiliar.
- ⊙ Problems can be set for individual or small group working. Less confident pupils are likely to be happier working in pairs or in small groups.
- ⊙ It is important to emphasise to pupils that there is no single correct way of solving any of the problems. Pupils should be encouraged to discover their own ways of tackling them.
- ⊙ Likewise, there is obviously no correct way of setting out answers. In fact, encouraging pupils to experiment (ie to try different approaches to the problems) might well involve plenty of rough working, for which a rough notebook or similar can be useful.
- ⊙ For some of the questions it can be helpful if pupils have available sheets of 1cm grid paper (p/copiable master attached).

