

Spatial awareness and location

	Stage 1 (Junior & Senior Infants)	Stage 2 (1st & 2nd Class)	Stage 3 (3rd & 4th Class)	Stage 4 (5th & 6th Class)
<i>Through appropriately playful and engaging learning experiences, children should be able to</i>				
Learning Outcomes	<p>develop a sense of spatial awareness in relation to their bodies and the immediate environment.</p> <p>describe the spatial features of objects and their relative position in space.</p>	<p>use spatial knowledge for the purposes of orientation and navigation.</p> <p>visualise and model location using symbolic co-ordinates.</p>	<p>describe, interpret and record directional instructions and location.</p> <p>compare and classify angles, recognising them as a property of a shape and as a description of a turn.</p>	<p>describe location on the full co-ordinate plane.</p> <p>interpret scale maps and create simple scale drawings.</p>
Mathematical concepts	<p>Everyday language can be used to describe the relative position and direction of objects and people (to other objects and people).</p> <p>Position can be viewed from various vantage points.</p> <p>Non-standard units can be useful to give more accurate directions for movement.</p> <p>Simple maps and/ or drawings can be used to track the movement of objects.</p>	<p>More formal language can help us describe position and direction more precisely, e.g., the language of the compass points.</p> <p>The location of objects can be portrayed on a map, with/without a grid system.</p> <p>A grid system of horizontal and vertical lines, labelled with letters and numbers, can be laid over a map and used to identify locations.</p> <p>When drawing maps of locations, it is necessary to think about the relative size and position of key features.</p>	<p>Directions and locations can be described with increasing precision, using more formal measures of distance and direction (<i>60 km east</i>) and simple grid reference co-ordinates (<i>A6</i>).</p> <p>There are different ways to think about angles, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • angles as the corners of 2-D shapes • angles as a measure of turn. <p>There are 360 degrees in a full turn.</p> <p>The extent of a turn is measured in degrees.</p> <p>Half of a full turn (180 degrees) and quarter of a full turn (90 degrees) are used to classify angles.</p> <p>Approximate distances can be calculated by considering the distance represented by each cell of the grid.</p>	<p>An exact location on a map can be described and found using co-ordinates.</p> <p>Distances on maps and some plans can be determined using a scale.</p> <p>The relationship between angle measures and compass co-ordinates can be used to plot direction accurately.</p> <p>The co-ordinate plane has a horizontal x-axis and a vertical y-axis.</p> <p>Co-ordinates identify the location of a point.</p> <p>They consist of pairs of numbers, which indicates the distance along the x-axis and the y-axis respectively.</p>