

# Master Comparing 2-Digit Numbers

## Rationale

In this step, pupils will build on their previous learning of comparing two 2-digit number representations by comparing two 2-digit numbers represented as numerals. They continue to use the vocabulary 'greater than', 'less than' and 'equal to' in their comparisons and they are introduced to the comparison symbols  $>$ ,  $<$  and  $=$  for the first time. Pupils will work from left to right to compare digits, looking at the greatest place value column first, and they will explain why a number is greater than or less than another using 'more' and 'fewer'. Pupils will deepen their understanding of comparing 2-digit numbers through the use of number lines. They will also develop their learning by writing digits to complete comparison statements.



## Key Stem Sentences

- \_\_\_ is greater than /  $>$  \_\_\_
- \_\_\_ is less than /  $<$  \_\_\_
- \_\_\_ is equal to /  $=$  \_\_\_
- \_\_\_ has more / fewer / no \_\_\_s.



## Key Vocabulary

- greatest place value column
- compare
- greater than / less than / equal to
- more / fewer / no



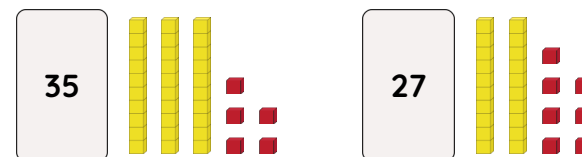
## Common Errors or Misconceptions

- Pupils may use the vocabulary or symbols incorrectly to compare two numbers.
- Pupils may misread the place value of digits.



## Key Representations

### Number cards with Dienes



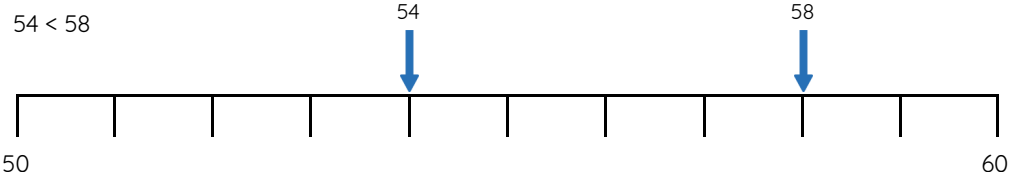
35 has more tens than 27. 35 is greater than 27

### Place value charts with digits

10s	1s
9	0
9	6

90 has no ones.  
90 is less than 96

### Number lines (to support reasoning)



## Pupils will FLOURISH if they can...

- identify a number that is greater than, less than or equal to another.
- use comparison symbols accurately, including writing digits to complete comparison statements.
- use a number line to show numbers greater than, less than or equal to another.
- explain their understanding using written sentences, concrete apparatus and given representations.

