

# Master Comparing 5 and 6-Digit Numbers

## Rationale

In this step, pupils build on their previous learning of comparing 4-digit numbers in Year 4 by comparing two 5-digit numbers, two 6-digit numbers and 5-digit and 6-digit numbers. They continue to use the symbols  $>$ ,  $<$ , and  $=$  and the vocabulary 'greater than', 'less than' and 'equal to' in their comparisons. They will work from left to right, looking at the greatest place value column first, to compare the digits and explain why a number is greater than or less than another using 'more' and 'fewer'. Pupils will prove their understanding of comparing 5 and 6-digit numbers through the use of number lines. They will also develop their learning by writing missing digits to complete comparison statements.



## Key Stem Sentences

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



## Key Vocabulary

- compare
- greater than / less than / equal to
- more / fewer / no



## Common Errors or Misconceptions

- Pupils may misread the place value of digits.
- Pupils may compare larger numbers based on the value of the digits rather than place value. For example,  $54,666 > 132,452$



## Key Representations

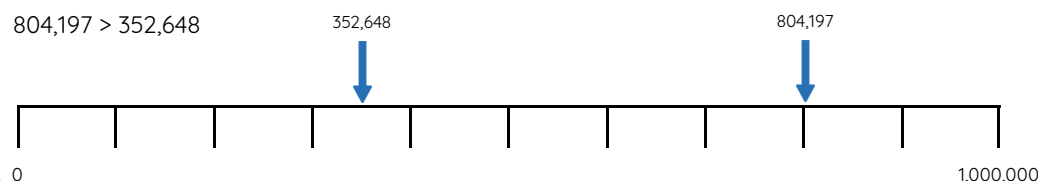
### Place value counters



10,302 has fewer ten thousands than 24,010.  
10,302 is less than 24,010

### Number lines (to support reasoning)

$804,197 > 352,648$



### Place value charts with digits

10,000s	1,000s	100s	10s	1s
7	6	5	5	5
7	5	5	5	5

76,555 has more thousands than 75,555  
76,555 is greater than 75,555



## Pupils will FLOURISH if they can...

- identify a number that is greater than, less than or equal to another.
- use a number line to show numbers greater than, less than or equal to another.
- write digits to complete comparison statements.
- begin to explain their understanding using their own words and representations.

