

# **Decimals and measurements**



When writing measurements we often use decimals. The decimal point separates the '**whole'** number from the **'parts'** of the whole numbe

### Length

With length the decimal point can be used to separate the metres from the centimetres:

- 2.5 metres
- 2 metres and 50 centimetres

The decimal point can also be used to separate the centimetres from the millimetres:

- 2.5 cm
- 2 centimetres and 5 millimetres

#### Weight

With weight the decimal point can be used to separate the kilograms from the grams:

- 3.45 kg
- 3 kilograms and 450 grams

## Capacity

With capacity the decimal point can be used to separate the litres from the millilitres:

- 7.31
- 7 I and 300 ml
- and 0.8 l is the same as 800 millilitres

#### Tips:

- When using decimals to write measurements it is not always necessary to use zeros as a place holder at the end. For example 1.5 m is the same as 1.50 m and 2.2 kg, is the same as 2.200 kg
- 0.5 is the same as a half, so 0.5 m is half a metre = 50 cm. For example 2.5 m =  $2\frac{1}{2}$  m

1 kilogram = 1 000 grams

1 metre = 100 centimetres

1 centimetre = 10 millimetres

1 litre = 1 000 millilitres