Some people find that all they need to remember is ... small side $<$ large side
large side $>$ small side.
Other people prefer to remember the names of the signs

| In maths | What it means in English |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \star<x \\ & x>\star \end{aligned}$ | $\star$ is smaller than $x$ <br> $x$ is bigger than $\star$ |
| $\begin{aligned} & \star \leq x \\ & \star \leqslant x \\ & x \geq \star \\ & x \geqslant \star \end{aligned}$ | $\star$ is smaller than, or equal to $x$ <br> $\star$ is smaller than, or equal to $x$ <br> $x$ is bigger than, or equal to $\star$ <br> $x$ is bigger than, or equal to $\star$ |
| $\begin{aligned} & x<\star \\ & \star>x \end{aligned}$ | $x$ is smaller than $\star$ <br> $\star$ is bigger than $x$ |
| $\begin{aligned} & x \leq \star \\ & x \leqslant \star \\ & \star \geq x \\ & \star \geqslant x \end{aligned}$ | $x$ is smaller than, or equal to $\star$ $x$ is smaller than, or equal to $\star$ $\star$ is bigger than, or equal to $x$ $\star$ is bigger than, or equal to $x$ |
| $\star<x<\star$ | $x$ is between $\star$ and $\star$ but not equal to $\star$ or $\star$ |
| $\begin{aligned} & \star \leq x \leq \star \\ & \star \leqslant x \leqslant \star \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & x \text { is between } \star \text { and } \star \text { and may be equal to } \star \text { or } \\ & x \text { is between } \star \text { and } \star \text { and may be equal to } \star \text { or } \end{aligned}$ |
| $\begin{aligned} & \star<x \leq \star \\ & \star<x \leqslant \star \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & x \text { is between } \star \text { and } \star \text { but not equal to } \star \text { and may be equal } \star \\ & x \text { is between } \star \text { and } \star \text { but not equal to } \star \text { and may be equal } \star \end{aligned}$ |
| $\begin{aligned} & \star \leq x<\star \\ & \star \leqslant x<\star \end{aligned}$ | $x$ is between $\star$ and $\star$ and may be equal to $\star$ but not equal to <br> $x$ is between $\star$ and $\star$ and may be equal to $\star$ but not equal to |
| List all the possible values of $x$ | Write down all the numbers $x$ can be |
| $x$ is an integer | $x$ is a whole number, not a decimal |

1. All the inequalities between the lines mean the same thing

See if you can figure out why.
Decide which way you want to remember the inequality signs.

