

Assessment Beyond Levels

In light of the removal of National Curriculum Levels for Years 1, 3, 4 and 5 at the end of 2013/14 and for years 2 and 6 at the end of the 2014/15, schools now have the freedom to implement their own assessment framework. However, they will still need to be able to demonstrate that pupils are making progress against the new curriculum. This means they will need to decide what evidence to collect and also what and how they report to parents. The challenge for us is how to retain the effective aspects of levels whilst developing an assessment system that works across the whole curriculum and can be used to inform teaching as well as support accountability

What does this mean at Kings Worthy Primary School?

We have begun the journey towards life beyond levels by considering the purpose of assessment ensuring that any new framework is built around guiding principles that enable our children to be the best they can be. We have identified the following five purposes which will form the basis of future assessment procedures:

- ✓ Inform next steps in teaching
- ✓ Provide meaningful feedback to pupils on what they've done well and how to improve
- ✓ provide evidence to enable the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to hold class teachers to account
- ✓ provide evidence to enable Governors to hold the SLT to account
- ✓ communicate to parents and carers how well their children are doing

The Leadership team have already evaluated a number of options to assess attainment and progress without the use of levels and are currently trialling some of those tools that it was felt had the potential to meet our requirements.

Currently, we are still assessing children in terms of national curriculum points and levels in order to track and monitor progress and report to parents. However over the next year we will be reviewing our Assessment Policy considering assessment for teaching strategies as well as continuing to investigate and trial a range of assessment tools including standardised tests. These will be used alongside national tests such as the Key Stage 2 SATs.

Changes Directed by Government

The attainment standard from 2016 for children leaving primary school at the end of year 6 is likely to be based on the proportion of pupils reaching the new expected standard in reading, writing **and** mathematics. To reach the new expected standard, each pupil will be required to attain a scaled score of 100 or more in the tests in each of reading and mathematics, as well as being assessed by their teacher as reaching the new expected standard in writing.