



Year 6 Test and Teacher Assessment Interim Changes 2016

Dear Parents,

3.5.16

This letter has been written in collaboration with head teachers across the City. We have tried to summarise and simplify the changes currently taking place in our Primary Schools.

As you know the Government and DFE (Department for Education) have made many changes with regards to assessment in schools and there are more changes still to come.

This year the children will be given a ***scale score in each test rather than a level and this will be reported to parents with their teacher assessment result*** at the end of the Summer Term.

The Government has not decided yet what the future arrangements at Key Stage 2 will be and has announced that 2016 will be interim arrangements for one year only. It is likely that there will be further changes for 2017.

The tests have been changed to reflect the changes to the national curriculum and the ***raised expectations*** announced previously by the Government as part of its reforms. A fact confirmed by the minister in his recent letter to headteachers. The most significant changes that children must be able to demonstrate their learning without support and apply it in other subjects to reach the new standard were only announced in February.

Teacher Assessment

Teacher Assessment is based on assessment activities planned by the teacher and progress made during lessons.

Teacher assessment only will be reported for **Writing** (the children do not complete a writing test) and the teachers must report one of the following teacher assessment standards:

P Scales – children with moderate learning difficulties

Pre- Key Stage - children who are working below the expectations for their age

Working towards the expected standard – children who are working within the expectations for their age but are not yet secure

The expected standard – children who are working securely within the expectations for their age

At greater depth within the expected standard – these children have demonstrated a greater depth and breadth of understanding within the expectations for their age. (This will be equivalent of a high score in reading or math's)

Teacher Assessment will be reported for **Reading and Maths** in addition to the tests. Teacher assessment children will be reported as **P scales, Pre Key stage or the expected standard** for these areas. Teacher Assessment for **Science** will be reported as the **expected standard or not**.

The New Tests

For test outcomes, instead of the old national curriculum levels, children will be given a **scale score**. This scale score will indicate the child's attainment again compared to age related expectations set out by the new national curriculum. There will be a range of scores within the new broad standards. The standards will probably be:

P Scales & Pre- Key Stage – will not be required to take the test and so will not have a scale score

Working towards the expected standard – (below a 100) children who are working within the new expectations for their age but are not yet secure

The expected standard – (scale score 100+) children working securely within the new expectations for their age.

At greater depth within the expected standard - (high score 115 not yet confirmed) these children have demonstrated a greater depth and breadth of understanding within the new expectations for their age.

I hope this letter will go some way to helping you to understand the changes that are taking place this year. I will keep you informed of any further changes.

Yours sincerely,

S.E.Stacey
Head teacher
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