



# Parental Information Evening

## Curriculum and Assessment Update

### Curriculum Headlines

The main aim of the new National Curriculum is to raise standards. Although the new curriculum is **more challenging**, the content is actually slimmer than the current curriculum, focusing on essential core subject knowledge and skills such as essay writing and computer programming.

#### English

- Stronger emphasis on vocabulary development, grammar, punctuation and spelling (for example, the use of commas and apostrophes will be taught in KS1).
- Handwriting (not currently assessed under the national curriculum) is expected to be fluent, legible and speedy.
- Spoken English has a greater emphasis, with children to be taught debating and presenting skills.

#### Maths

- Five-year-olds will be expected to learn to count up to 100 (compared to 20 under the current curriculum) and learn number bonds to 20 (currently up to 10).
- Simple fractions ( $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$ ) will be taught from KS1 and, by the end of primary school, children should be able to convert decimal fractions to simple fractions (e.g.  $0.375 = \frac{3}{8}$ ).
- By the age of nine, children will be expected to know times tables up to  $12 \times 12$  (currently  $10 \times 10$  by the end of primary school).
- Calculators will not be introduced until near the end of KS2 to encourage mental arithmetic.

#### Science

- Strong focus on scientific knowledge and language, rather than understanding the nature and methods of science in abstract terms.
- Non-core subjects like caring for animals will be replaced by topics like the human circulatory system.

#### Design & technology

- Design and Technology has become more important in the new curriculum, setting children on the path to becoming the designers and engineers of the future.
- More sophisticated use of design equipment such as electronics and robotics.
- In KS2, children will learn about how key events and individuals in design and technology have shaped the world.

#### Computing

- Computing replaces Information and Communication Technology (ICT), with a greater focus on programming rather than on operating programs.
- From age five, children will learn to write and test simple programs and to organise, store and retrieve data.
- From seven, they will be taught to understand computer networks, including the internet.
- Internet safety will be taught in primary schools.

#### Languages

- A modern foreign language is now mandatory in KS2. Children will be expected to master basic grammar and accurate pronunciation and to converse, present, read and write in the language.

## **Assessment Headlines**

- Levels have been removed
- Levels were removed to allow teachers greater flexibility in the way they plan and assess pupils' learning.

At Highnam our marking has evolved to include two colours

- **Pink** – **Pleasing Pink** (What has gone well)
- **Green** – **Growing Green** (Area to review or target for next time)

Pupils are involved in learning conversations with their teachers. Questions may be posed to check understanding or deepen learning.

### **Reception**

- Baseline Assessment introduced for pupils in Reception (September 2015): BASE
- The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) requires early years practitioners to review children's progress and share a summary with parents at the end of reception via the EYFS profile.

### **Year 1**

- Phonics test (40 questions – half real words and half non-words)

### **Year 2**

- A new Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling assessment will be introduced this year.
- A new arithmetic test will be introduced
- 2 English reading papers
- Three bands to be shared with parents for reading, maths and writing:
  - a) Working towards the expected standard (Emerging)
  - b) Working at the expected standard (Expected)
  - c) Working at greater depth within the expected standard (Exceeded)
- This is an interim teacher assessment framework with a final one being introduced in 2017.

### **Year 6**

- The tests will take place **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May**
- A raw score and scaled score (100 being the national average) will be shared with parents and whether the national average has been met (Secondary Ready).
- New arithmetic test introduced (replacing the mental maths test) – 36 questions (30 mins).
- No level 6 tests.
- English reading – a greater focus on fictional texts.
- Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling
  - a) A greater focus on knowing and applying grammatical terminology with the full range of punctuation tested.
  - b) Technical terms in grammar tested.
  - c) Spelling patterns and methodologies form the basis of spellings tested.
- Writing will be reported using 3 bands (working towards, working at, working at greater depth)

### **Internal Assessment Procedures: STEPS**

- Pupils will be tracked against the new National Curriculum Age Related Expectations (ARE).
- There are 6 bands (1-6) and each pupil will be judged against the Key Performance Indicators.
- Pupils will be tracked through the bands and are expected to make 6 steps progress a year

Emerging (-)	Emerging (+)	Expected (-)	Expected (+)	Exceeded (-)	Exceeded (+)
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