

UNDERSTANDING ASSESSMENT AND THE NEW NATIONAL CURRICULUM – Years 1- 6.

The new national Curriculum was introduced in September 2014. The new curriculum has been designed to add greater challenge to children's learning.

Using the Hertfordshire assessment tracking system teachers have been working with the new objectives to monitor children's progress and plan their next steps for learning.

How does the school assess the progress made by each child?

- Over the year the school monitors each child's progress in a number of ways including:
 - Marking work against agreed criteria
 - Monitoring in the classroom
 - Observing and talking to the children
- Assessment is an ongoing programme but there is a formal review of progress at the end of each term.

How are assessments recorded and monitored?

- We hold termly pupil progress meetings where we use a software package to help to ensure that all children are making satisfactory progress and alerts us if there is any cause for concern. In this way we track all individual's progress.
- In June/July every child's progress over the past year is carefully scrutinised and this data informs planning for the coming year.
- End of year reports provide targets to be addressed in their next year to plan for continuity.

What types of formal testing are undertaken within the school?

- Nationally, all children in Year 1 sit the phonics screening check. This is designed to confirm whether pupils have learnt phonic decoding to an appropriate standard. It will identify pupils who need extra help to improve their decoding skills.
- At the end of Year 2 and Year 6 children undertake statutory assessments as required by the government. We will share Information regarding next year's statutory assessments when we know of any changes to take place.

What do the New Curriculum assessments tell me?

- The programmes of study are organised as 2 year phases – Years 1 & 2, Years 3 & 4, and Years 5 & 6.
- Children are assessed against each criteria as working below, working within or exceeding expectations.
- The focus of any assessments is to ascertain next steps in learning so children can make good progress.

How do I know if my child is making satisfactory progress?

- In the Autumn and Spring terms there are formal Parent consultation meetings when teachers can provide information about progress, strengths and areas for development.
- In addition there are 10 minute appointments available on Monday afternoons if parents have concerns or need an update.

Good quality assessment

Here at Templewood we provide a rich, broad and balanced curriculum and a positive, inclusive learning culture and ethos. Although the curriculum has changed to add greater challenge the principles of good assessment have not changed and we will continue to apply these principles for the benefit of all our learners.