

New National Curriculum and Assessment Update

As you may know, a new National Curriculum was introduced in September 2014 bringing in some significant differences in content and expectations across the range of subjects. The new expectations and standards are higher than ever before and children will be covering knowledge and skills, particularly in maths, earlier on. You will continue to receive information each term from class teachers so you can support learning at home, and so you know what is being covered.

The way children are assessed has also changed completely and now all attainment will be reported on a new system of age related expectations for children in every year group. There is no national method of assessing a child's mastery of the objectives for each year, nor their progress within the new curriculum as the responsibility for this has been given to schools. We have spent a long time researching various different methods of assessing pupils, and we have developed a system that will take the end of year expectations for each year group and split this into 3 categories as follows:

- Emerging— Yet to be secure in the end of year expectations.
- Expected—Secure in the majority of the end of year expectations.
- Exceeding—Secure in almost all or all the end of year expectations and is able to use and apply their knowledge and skills confidently.

We have a robust system of assessment in place and use different forms of assessment to ensure we can monitor and track the progress of every child. We are very happy to discuss the progress your child is making on a regular basis and there will be a number of opportunities for you to come into school. We understand that children learn in a variety of ways and whilst some of the curriculum content is different, teachers will continue to work hard to ensure that your children are challenged to reach their full potential and enjoy all aspects of learning on a day to day basis, whilst making appropriate progress so they can be ready for the next phase of their education.