



October 2017

Dear Parents/carers,

The new curriculum has been in place for 2 years. The Senior Management Team and staff are working very hard to ensure the planning and assessment meets the new demands of the curriculum. Equally, as you may have seen through the children's work, the end of year reports and from attending curriculum workshops, the children are working hard to reach the age related objectives outlined by the Department of Education.

In the last two years we have assessed the children on a 1- 9 scale. 1 – 3 Meant the children were emerging, 4 – 6 meant the children were meeting (age related expectation) and 7 – 9 meant the children were Exceeding age related expectation. After two years of the curriculum and analysing how the children are performing in their classwork for reading, spelling, grammar, and science and alongside tests; we have decided to change the system to ensure children have an improved chance of meeting their age related objectives in class work and tests.

Therefore from September 2017 children in Y1, Y2, Y3 Y4,Y5 and Y6 will sit at least three tests a year from a company called Rising Stars. Children will still be assessed using teacher assessment alongside tests to ensure the judgements made at the end of the year represent where the children are at in their learning. Therefore test results will be used to decide the overall judgement made in children's learning.

We are also changing the way we assess the children, the following outlines how we will assess children throughout the year and make judgements on children's leaning at the end of the year for their reports.

Summative judgement will be made by:

(Please note the number of objectives may differ according to different year groups and subjects, this is an example from Y1.)

WTS (Your child is working Towards the Standard) 1, 2, 3 and 4.

EXS (Your child is at the expected standard) 1 and 2

GDS (Your child is at Greater Depth of the standard)

The scale	WTS1	WTS2	WTS3	WTS4	EXS1	EXS2	GDS
	25%	40%	55%	70%	85%	100%	50%+
No of statements	4	6	8	11	13	15	5-10

To offer further challenge pupils who might reach age related expectations before the end of the year are expected to extend their work through deeper and more complex problem solving, involving greater levels of reasoning and multi – layered tasks which require application of knowledge rather than simply moving onto new material. This is known as mastery. This means that children develop a deep security in their understanding and will increasingly be able to make links to their knowledge across the curriculum.

It is therefore important to understand the high level that children are working towards when they become secure at their age related expectation and that it is not usually anticipated that many children will work above the age related expectation in the new curriculum. Although, we will always aspire for all the children to reach their full potential.

We will be keeping parents/carers updated about changes assessments throughout the year. Should you have any questions about your child's report or assessments, please feel free to approach your child's class teacher or I am more than happy to respond to your questions by email or over the phone.

Mr Y Kadar (Deputy Head Teacher)