

Changes to National Curriculum Assessment

2015



National Curriculum 2014

- In September 2014 a new national curriculum was produced and all state school were required to follow this.
- In the last academic year, the children in Year 1, 3, 4 and 5 followed the programmes of study set out in the new curriculum.

Academic year 2016-2017

- This year all children in key stage 1 and key stage 2 will be working towards the year band expectations set out in the new curriculum.
 - The new curriculum is undoubtedly more challenging and focuses on the essential core knowledge and skills for each subject.
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Expectations

- In English there is a strong emphasis on developing vocabulary, grammar, spelling and punctuation. Children are expected to be able to discuss and debate and learn to recite poems.
- In maths, children five years of age will be expected to count up to 100 and to know their tables up to 12x12 by 11, children will be expected to convert decimal fractions to simple fractions.
- In science, evolution will be taught in primary schools for the first time.

Year band expectations

- An overview of each subject in each year band can be found on the school website.
(Curriculum, New in 2015)
- An example of the year 6 expectations can be seen below in maths.

Year 6 expectations

- Pupils should be taught to:
 - use common factors to simplify fractions; use common multiples to express fractions in the same denomination
 - compare and order fractions, including fractions $G\ 1$
 - add and subtract fractions with different denominators and mixed numbers, using the concept of equivalent fractions
 - multiply simple pairs of proper fractions, writing the answer in its simplest form
 - divide proper fractions by whole numbers
 - associate a fraction with division and calculate decimal fraction equivalents
 - identify the value of each digit in numbers given to three decimal places and multiply and divide numbers by 10, 100 and 1000 giving answers up to three decimal places
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National testing

What remains the same?

- End of key stage SATs will continue to be administered to children in year 2 and year 6.
- The children will be tested in English and Maths and some schools will be required to complete a science test at key stage 2.

National testing

What's changed?

- Levels have been removed and schools are required to create their own system for assessing and recording.
- From 2016, the Government will use scaled scores to report national curriculum test outcomes.
- There will be no additional test for the more able children.
- Calculators will no longer be allowed to be used in the maths test at the end of key stage 2.

Scaled scores

- A scaled score of 100 will represent the national standard. This will suggest that a child is well placed to succeed in their next phase of their education.
- Those children achieving a score of below 100 will be working below the national standard.
- A score of above 100, will indicate that a child is working above the national standard.
- Those children who sit the national tests in year 2 and year 6 will have their scaled score recorded in their end of year report.
- Most children should be able to access the new tests as the questions will be arranged in order of difficulty.

More Able Pupils

- In the past, the more able children have been able to progress through the levels and were able to sit a level 6 test at the end of Key Stage 2. Now, the children who have a secure knowledge and understanding of the curriculum for their year band will be given the opportunity to add more depth and breadth to their knowledge. They will be given opportunities to master the curriculum.

Assessment at St Bernadette's

- Children in year 1 through to year 6 will be assessed every half term. Formal tests in Reading , Grammar, Writing and Maths will be administered.
- The formal assessments will allow staff to see how each individual is performing against their year band expectations.

- Children will be graded as:

Beginning

Beginning +

Developing

Developing +

Secure

Mastering

This will be determined by the proportion of the curriculum they have covered and understood.

- It will be very rare that children will access the material from the year band above. This is a significant difference to the way staff have taught previously.