

# ASHTON WEST END PRIMARY ACADEMY

## A PARENTS' GUIDE TO THE NEW NATIONAL CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT



In September 2014 the Government introduced a new National Curriculum for Primary Schools. The new curriculum no longer uses 'levels' to measure attainment and progress. Schools are now free to decide how to teach the statutory curriculum and how to assess children's progress. Find out how our school has made these changes and how we assess and track your child's progress throughout their time with us.

### Ashton West End Primary Academy's Curriculum

The National Curriculum sets out programmes of study for each year group in Maths, and for each year group in English in Key Stage 1. In Key Stage 2 English is grouped into programmes of study for Years 3/4 and Years 5/6. This is because the Curriculum has topics/skills that overlap over 2 years and will be taught in each year.

**How will you track the children's progress over a year?**

All children are different, and all children will make progress at different times from their own starting points. We will be assessing each child formally 3 times a year (Summative Assessment) against National Curriculum programmes of study and make a professional judgement about the stage that the child has reached in the age-related expectations.

### What is new? What are the changes?

#### A brief summary

The new National Curriculum has more content and is pitched higher. Some content that used to be taught at Key Stage 2 is now being taught at Key Stage 1. The English curriculum places a greater importance on grammar and punctuation. Foundation subjects, such as History and Geography, are now more knowledge-based. The old 'levels' are no longer used to reference a attainment e.g. , previously, if you had a child in Year 3 they may have been working at Level 2, 3 or 4. The levels did not relate to their year group. Instead, now each year group has 'age-related' expectations for that year.

**Teachers are assessing children all the time against the lesson objectives. This is called Formative Assessment. It is used to plan the next steps for the child in class.**

## Overview of new National Curriculum and expected progress

Key Stage One						Lower Key Stage Two						Upper Key Stage Two					
Year 1 and Year 2						Year 3 and Year 4						Year 5 and Year 6					
Year 1 expected level			Year 2 expected level			Year 3 expected level			Year 4 expected level			Year 5 expected level			Year 6 expected level		
WT	EXP	GD	WT	EXP	GD	WT	EXP	GD	WT	EXP	GD	WT	EXP	GD	WT	EXP	GD

### Tracking progress against the National Curriculum programmes of study

If a child is assessed as having grasped around 20% of their age-related curriculum they would be 'working towards' that standard, at 60% they would be 'expected' and once a child has grasped above 80% they would be assessed as being at 'greater depth'. A child, who is assessed at being greater depth, will then be able to broaden and deepen their knowledge within that standard. This is known as mastery where children can apply their own learning in different situations.

### Progress within bands

As children develop through each standard, we track their progress very carefully. Each standard is broken into 3 steps. Over the year the steps are called: 'Low' (L) 'Secure' (S) and 'High' (H). So if a child is working securely in the expected standard then they are 'expected secure'. These are the terms that the teachers will be using at our next parents' evening.

Working towards low	Expected low	Greater depth low
Working towards secure	Expected secure	Greater depth secure
Working towards high	Expected high	Greater depth high

### Will children still have SATs?

Yes, SATs will continue in year 2 and year 6 based on the new National Curriculum. The tests have changed and now reflect the higher expectations of the new curriculum.

**What happens when my child goes to high School?** High schools too will have their own systems and will work with the primaries to ensure that the systems work together, so there is continuity for children's progress.

**What can I do to help my child?** There is so much parents can help with, reading is very important along with time tables, spellings and completing homework.

If you have any questions at all, please come and ask in school. Thank you for your continued support.