



# Assessment Policy

## St. John's C.E. Primary School



### St. John's Vision statement

**At St. John's we want everyone to grow and flourish. Our small school is a nurturing community where we can develop our gifts and broaden our horizons. We seek to do all this within the knowledge and love of God, where the values of His Kingdom guide and inspire us.**

*I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long ad high and deep is the love of Christ.' Ephesians 3.16-18*

***'Thriving and learning as we build God's Kingdom'***

**Policy: Assessment Policy**

Reviewed: July 2022

Future Review: July 2023



# Assessment Policy

This policy and procedure has been produced based on recommendations in the Final Report of the Commission on Assessment without Levels (Sep 2015) and in line with the 'Purposes and Principles of Assessment without Levels'. (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/commission-on-assessment-without-levels-finalreport>)

## Aims and Principles of Assessment

To ensure that:

- assessment is an integral part of teaching, based on best practice, focusing on the curriculum and that it lies at the heart of promoting children's education.
- high quality, in depth teaching, is supported and informed by high quality formative assessment. (ongoing assessment)
- the school ethos promotes and emphasises the opportunity for all children to succeed if taught and assessed effectively.
- there is always a clear purpose for assessing and assessment is fit for its intended purpose.
- assessment is used to focus on monitoring and supporting children's progress, attainment and wider outcomes.
- assessment provides information which is clear, reliable and free from bias and informs teaching and learning.
- assessment supports informative and productive conversations with pupils and parents
- children take responsibility for achievements and are encouraged to reflect on their own progress, understand their strengths and identify what they need to do to improve.
- we achieve our assessment without adding unnecessarily to teacher workload.
- assessment is inclusive of all abilities.
- a range of assessments are used including 'Day to Day In-School Formative Assessment', 'In School Summative Assessment' and 'Nationally Standardised Summative Assessment.'

## Delivery

At St John's School, we use three broad overarching forms of assessment:

- 'Day to Day In-School Formative Assessment',
- 'In-School Summative Assessment'
- 'Nationally Standardised Summative Assessments'.

## Day-to-Day in-school formative assessment

'Day to Day In-School Formative Assessment' is an integral part of teaching and learning. It helps children to measure their own strengths and areas for development. It allows teachers to understand pupil performance on a continuing basis, enabling them to identify when pupils are struggling, when they have consolidated learning and when they are ready to progress. In this way, it supports teachers to provide appropriate support or enrichment activities to deepen understanding as necessary and informs progress. It enables teachers to evaluate their own teaching of particular topics or concepts and to plan future lessons accordingly.



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Through 'Day-to Day In-School Formative Assessment', we will

- support children in measuring their knowledge and understanding against learning objectives, success criteria and wider outcomes, identifying where they need to target their efforts to improve.
- ensure that problems are identified at the individual level and that every child will be appropriately supported to make progress and meet expectations
- making use of moving on question and answers to deepen understanding.
- Marking of pupils' work, particularly using the agreed marking codes to evaluate and improve a pupil's understanding.
- Scanning work for pupil attainment and development
- Discussions with children
- Pupil self-assessment e.g. traffic lighting, polishing pen, self-marking against agreed success-criteria
- Peer marking

## 'In-School Summative Assessment'

In-school summative assessments will be used to monitor and support children's performance. They will provide children and teachers with information about how well they have learned and are understanding a particularly subject. In-school summative assessments will also inform parents about achievement, progress and wider outcomes. Teachers will make use of in school summative assessments to evaluate both pupil learning at the end of either each half-term or term, depending on year group and the impact of their own teaching. Both these purposes will support teachers in planning for subsequent teaching and learning. In-school summative assessments will also be used at whole school level to monitor the performance of pupil cohorts, to identify where interventions may be required and to work with teachers to ensure pupils are supported to achieve sufficient progress and expected attainment. A timetable of Summative assessments is attached in the appendix

A range of 'In-school-summative assessments' will be used including, for example.

- Half termly year tests where appropriate
- Short end of topic or unit tests or tasks
- Reviews for pupils with SEND, Pupil Premium and disabilities
- Regular pupil progress meetings ( 4 times a year) to analyse and discuss pupil performance and needs.

End of year annual reports outlining progress and attainment of children in relation to National Curriculum age related expectations.



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Each year group will follow this formal assessment cycle, where there are shaded areas informal teacher assessment will take place with the relevant co-ordinator.

Year Group	End of Autumn 1	End of Autumn 2	End of Spring 1	End of Spring 2	End of Summer 1	End of Summer 2
Nursery	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Reception	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	EYFS Profile
1		✓		✓	Phonic Test	✓
2	✓	✓	✓	✓	SATS	SATS
3	✓	✓		✓		✓
4	✓	✓		✓	Times tables	✓
5	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
6	✓	✓	✓	✓	SATS	Writing/Science TA

The following subject areas will be assessed on a termly basis:

- Science
- RE
- History
- Geography
- Art and design
- Design and technology
- Music
- Computing
- French
- Physical Education
- PSHE

## National standardised summative assessment

Nationally standardised assessments will be used to provide information on how children are performing in comparison to children nationally. They will provide parents with information on how the school is performing in comparison to schools nationally. Teachers will have a clear understanding of national expectations and assess their own performance in the broader national context. Nationally standardised summative assessment enables the school leadership team to benchmark the school's performance against other schools locally and nationally, and make judgements about the school's effectiveness. The government and OFSTED will also make use of



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nationally standardised summative assessment to provide a starting point for Ofsted's discussions, when making judgements about the school's performance.

A range of 'Nationally standardised summative assessments' will be used:

- Baseline Assessment in Reception
- A phonics test in Year 1
- National Curriculum teacher assessments at the end of Key Stage 1
- Multiplications Tables Check in Year 4
- National Curriculum tests at the end of Key Stage 2
- National Curriculum teacher assessments in writing and science KS2

## **An inclusive approach to assessment**

In addition to the assessments above, the school will make use of additional diagnostic assessments to contribute to the early and accurate identification of children and young people's special education needs and any requirements for support and intervention.

## **Training for staff**

After joining the school, all teachers will be provided will be provided with a copy of this policy and it will form part of the induction program. In all staff meetings and training, there will be an emphasis on teachers having a good understanding of assessment and assessment practice. Continuing professional development may take various forms including the provision of direct face to face training and online training. The Assessment Leader will ensure that best practice is shared and endeavour to keep up to date with latest research. The school in making use of their assessment systems will continually review and evaluate them to ensure that they support the delivery of the school's assessment policy and are in line with the aims and principles outlined.

## **Pupil Progress Meetings.**

At the end of Autumn 1 and Autumn 2, Spring and Summer Term 2 all of the SMT, Inclusion Co-ordinator and the class teacher, and where possible the support staff, will hold a pupil progress meeting where the progress of the class is looked at. Key targets and interventions are discussed which help inform everybody involved in the next block of teaching where the key priorities are.

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The Assessment Leader, is responsible for updating this policy in line with any new developments in the school and new government guidance. All staff are expected to follow the policy and the Leadership Team, following ongoing regular reviews of classroom practice, will be responsible for ensuring the effectiveness of practice across the school, reporting to the Governing Body on a regular basis.



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