

St Peter's CE Primary School

Assessment Principles

At St Peter's CE Primary School we believe that effective assessment provides information to improve teaching and learning. To do this in our school, we undertake two different but complementary types of assessment: Assessment **for** Learning and Assessment **of** Learning.

Assessment for learning (formative assessment) is ongoing and involves the use of assessment in the classroom to raise pupil achievement. It is based on the idea that all pupils will improve most if they understand the aim of their learning, where they are in relation to this, and how they can achieve this aim (i.e. to close the gap in their knowledge).

We give our children regular feedback on their learning so that they understand what it is that they need to do better. Research has shown that their involvement in the review process raises standards, and that it empowers pupils to take action towards improving their performance.

At our school, Assessment for Learning is based on the following principles:

- Making the learning objective for each lesson clear, in a context, with success criteria;
- Providing opportunities for the children to peer and self evaluate their work using a variety of strategies;
- To provide clear teacher feedback to pupils either verbally or through marking, identifying gaps and next steps in pupil's learning;
- Use effective questioning;
- Identifying the next steps in pupil's learning. If children know what they are aiming for and the assessment criteria being used, it is much easier for them to do their best.

Assessment of learning (summative assessment) is a snap shot of what has been learned in terms of both attainment and achievement. It involves judging all pupils' performance against national standards. Teachers draw on a wide range of evidence to make these judgements and may make them at the end of a unit of work, of a year, or of a key stage. Test results, too, describe pupil performance. The assessments at the end of KS1 and KS2 are reported and compared to national results. The school uses these reports to analyse and evaluate its strengths and weaknesses and to inform future school improvement.

Assessment also helps us to evaluate how effectively different elements of the curriculum have been delivered and where modifications may be necessary.

Aims : To summarise, the aim of assessment in our school is:

- to enable our children to demonstrate what they know, understand and can do in their work;
- to help our children recognise the standards to aim for, and to understand what they need to do next to improve their work;
- to provide children with honest feedback and assessment outcomes in a sensitive manner.
- to allow teachers to plan work that accurately reflects the needs of each child;
- to provide regular, understandable information for parents that enables them to support their child's learning;
- to provide the head teacher, school leadership and governors with clear and understandable information that allows them to make judgements about the effectiveness of the school.