Summer 2021: Primary assessment

Key stage 1 and key stage 2 statutory tests and teacher assessments

In January, the Department for Education (DfE) announced that primary statutory assessments could not continue as intended in 2021.

The statutory key stage 1 and key stage 2 tests and teacher assessments planned for summer 2021 are cancelled. This includes:

- year 1 phonics screening check
- year 4 multiplication tables check
- key stage 1 teacher assessments
- key stage 2 tests in reading and mathematics
- key stage 2 teacher assessment of writing

There will be no new tests published for key stage 1 or key stage 2 this year.

There will be no moderation of teacher assessment by local authorities, as these assessments are not taking place.

Early Years Foundation Stage Profile

The DfE has further confirmed that in 2021, the early years foundation stage (EYFS) profile is not mandatory and that practitioners should use their best endeavours to complete it and provide the information to year 1 teachers and parents if this is possible.

Schools that complete the EYFS profile will not be subject to statutory external moderation and there is no requirement to submit data to the local authority or to confirm whether you have completed it to the DfE.

Performance data

The DfE has confirmed that, as in 2020, they will not publish any institution-level databased on 2021 key stage 1 and 2 assessments.

This data will also not be available for others, such as Ofsted, regional schools commissioner (RSCs) or local authorities, to use to hold schools to account.

This means there will be no data calculated or published for primary schools.

You can read the full update from the DfE here.

ACE Learning Approach to End of Year Assessment 2021

Assessment at ACE Learning is at the heart of all teaching and learning. It is an on-going process with the main purpose of helping pupils and teachers plan the next steps in learning. Assessment is used as a tool to guide teaching and learning, ensuring that teaching is appropriate, and learners make good progress.

Passing robust information generated by assessments from teacher to teacher ensures that each child's progress and future learning needs are understood. Through careful monitoring, we make sure that our approach to assessment remains manageable for all members of staff and meaningful for all children and their parents and carers. Teachers continuously assess progress through the year group objectives and record attainment on the ACE Learning Planning, Assessment and Teaching Tool (PATT).

The attainment and progress details to support children's transitions will be based on teacher assessment supported by the following:

- Early years foundation stage (EYFS) transition to key stage 1: early learning goals.
- Year 1 Phonics: Using past papers.
- Year 2 transition to key stage 2: past SATs papers.
- Years 3 to 6: End of year Assessment Tests.
- Year 4: Optional Multiplication tables check.
- All year groups: Writing task moderated across the Academy Trust.
- Year 6 transition to key stage 3: Conversations about each individual pupil with secondary school staff.

To achieve standardisation of our teacher assessment we will moderate across the schools in ACE Learning.