

Assessment Principles

As part of the 2013 Primary Assessment and Accountability consultation, we consulted on a set of core principles to underpin effective assessment systems within schools. Following feedback from the consultation responses, these principles were further developed by an independent Expert Panel.

The principles are designed to help all schools as they implement arrangements for assessing pupils' progress against their school curriculum; Government will not impose a single system for ongoing assessment.

Schools will be expected to demonstrate (with evidence) their assessment of pupils' progress, to keep parents informed, to enable governors to make judgements about the school's effectiveness, and to inform Ofsted inspections.

Effective assessment systems:

Give reliable information to parents about how their child, and their child's school, is performing

- a. Allow meaningful tracking of pupils towards end of key stage expectations in the new curriculum, including regular feedback to parents.
- b. Provide information which is transferable and easily understood and covers both qualitative and quantitative assessment.
- c. Differentiate attainment between pupils of different abilities, giving early recognition of pupils who are falling behind and those who are excelling.
- d. Are reliable and free from bias.

Help drive improvement for pupils and teachers

- a. Are closely linked to improving the quality of teaching.
- b. Ensure feedback to pupils contributes to improved learning and is focused on specific and tangible objectives.
- c. Produce recordable measures which can demonstrate comparison against expected standards and reflect progress over time.

Make sure the school is keeping up with external best practice and innovation

- a. Are created in consultation with those delivering best practice locally.
- b. Are created in consideration of, and are benchmarked against, international best practice.

© Crown copyright 2014