



Assessment at Windmill Hill Academy 2014/15

How do we assess learning at Windmill Hill Academy?

At Windmill Hill Academy we believe that knowing what each child has achieved and what their next steps are is crucial to helping them to succeed. In order to know this, we regularly assess the children to build a picture of a child's learning.

Assessment is ongoing and happens throughout the year by collecting evidence from a variety of assessment tools. Such as:

- Through questioning and discussion so that teaching staff can find out what children know each lesson
- Through high quality written and oral feedback so that children understand their own learning and to provide teaching staff with the information to inform the next learning session
- Reading conferencing to provide information about children's reading levels to inform a book band level for school and home reading
- Reading comprehension activities which form part of our reading assessment practices drawing upon some commercial schemes such as Nelson
- Distance write and maths opportunities – for maths, commercial schemes such as Rising Stars are used from Year 1
- More formal assessments such as NFER Spelling tests in Year 3,4, 5 and 6
- Statutory assessments such as KS2 SAT tests at the end of Year 6, KS1 SATs and the phonic screening check in Year 1

Teaching Staff regularly meet together for moderation to make sure their assessments are accurate and helpful to the children. As a result of assessment, teachers are able to adapt their lessons and the curriculum to make sure they are fully meeting the needs of the children. Additional interventions would be put in place for any specific needs identified.

What is changing in September 2014?

As the new curriculum is introduced, the government have removed the system of using levels to assess children (this will not come into place for Year 2 and Year 6 until September 2015). Schools have been asked to develop their own system or adopt a new system that they feel meets their needs. Schools will still need to be able to show evidence of the good progress the children are making.

During the year 2014-2015, Windmill Hill Academy will be carefully studying any new models that are developed before making a decision about what best meets the needs of our children.

