

Alderwood Primary School

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Executive Headteacher: Jo Gordon

Co-Heads of School: Katie Cutajar and Natasha Tilley



5th November 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

You may be aware that the Government has recently made significant changes in the way that children in schools are to be assessed to tie in with the New National Curriculum which was introduced in all schools from September 2013. The DfE has recently decided that National Curriculum levels will no longer be used and has required schools to set up their own way of assessing pupils without levels.

Assessing Without Levels

In line with this the Compass Partnership has devised an assessment system which allows teachers to assess children's knowledge and understanding against national expectations for their year group and determine whether they are emerging, expected or secure.

Emerging: Yet to be secure in the end of year expectations.

Expected: Secure in the majority of the end of year expectations.

Secure: Secure in almost all or all the end of year expectations and is able to use and apply their knowledge and skills confidently.

Under the old levels system children who were exceeding might have moved into the next level. The DfE now wants children who are in the exceeding bracket to add more depth and breadth to their knowledge, and to have more opportunities to develop their using and applying skills. They are calling this phase of learning 'mastery' or 'working at greater depth'. In exceptional cases, children will be working towards the expectations from the year above or below depending on their learning needs.

Pupil Progress Tracking

Class teachers and school leaders will be using the new Compass Partnership Assessment Framework to track children's progress across the school. They will identify what children can do and what they need to do in order to achieve the next step in their learning. Teacher assessments will be used to inform planning and set targets.

Parent Workshops

We will be holding parent workshops on 25th November at 9am where we will outline in more detail how assessment will be used to support learning and reported to parents.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs K Cutajar

Miss N Tilley

Co-Heads of Schools

Co-Heads of Schools



Willow Dene - Alderwood - South Rise
Deansfield - Wingfield - Horn Park - Halstow

Executive of The Compass Partnership – John Camp