

Assessment policy

St Silas Primary School



Approved by:	Michele Battersby	Date: 11.2.25
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Aims

This policy aims to:

- Provide clear guidelines on our approach to formative and summative assessment
- Establish a consistent and coherent approach to recording summative assessment outcomes and reporting to parents/carers
- Clearly set out how and when assessment practice will be monitored and evaluated

Legislation and guidance

Schools have been free to develop their own approaches to assessment since the National Curriculum levels were removed in 2014.

This policy refers to:

- The recommendations in the [final report of the Commission on Assessment without Levels](#)
- Statutory reporting requirements set out in the [Education \(Pupil Information\) \(England\) Regulations 2005: schedule 1](#)
- [2024 assessment and reporting arrangements \(phonics screening check\)](#)
- [2024 key stage 2 assessment and reporting arrangements](#)

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

Assessment approaches

At St Silas we see assessment as an integral part of teaching and learning, and it is inextricably linked to our curriculum.

We use 3 broad overarching forms of assessment: day-to-day in-school formative assessment, in-school summative assessment and nationally standardised summative assessment.

4.1 In-school formative assessment

Effective in-school formative assessment enables:

- **Teachers** to identify how pupils are performing on a continuing basis and to use this information to provide appropriate support or extension, evaluate teaching and plan future lessons
- **Pupils** to measure their knowledge and understanding against learning objectives, and identify areas in which they need to improve
- **Parents/carers** to gain a broad picture of where their child's strengths and weaknesses lie, and what they need to do to improve

Please refer to the Feedback Policy.

4.2 In-school summative assessment

Effective in-school summative assessment enables:

- **School leaders** to monitor the performance of pupil cohorts, identify where interventions may be required, and work with teachers to ensure pupils are supported to achieve sufficient progress and attainment
- **Teachers** to evaluate learning at the end of a unit or period, and the impact of their own teaching
- **Pupils** to understand how well they have learned and understood a topic or course of work taught over a period of time. It should be used to provide feedback on how they can improve

- **Parents/carers** to stay informed about the achievement, progress and wider outcomes of their child across a period
- The school uses NFER Standardised tests in reading, mathematics and grammar termly.

4.3 Nationally standardised summative assessment

Nationally standardised summative assessment enables:

- **School leaders** to monitor the performance of pupil cohorts, identify where interventions may be required, and work with teachers to ensure pupils are supported to achieve sufficient progress and attainment
- **Teachers** to understand national expectations and assess their own performance in the broader national context
- **Pupils and parents/carers** to understand how pupils are performing in comparison with pupils nationally

Nationally standardised summative assessments include:

- Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) profile at the end of reception
- Phonics screening check in year 1
- National Curriculum tests and teacher assessments at the end of Key Stage (KS) 2 (year 6)

Collecting and using data

- Formative assessment is recorded on Sonar by highlighting the relevant statements in reading, writing, mathematics, science and RE.
- Summative assessment is recorded termly on Sonar in reading, writing, mathematics, science and RE.
- End of year summative assessments are recorded on Sonar in all subjects.

Reporting to parents/carers

- There are two Parents Evenings each year for parents to discuss their child's achievements.
- There is an end of year written report to parents.
- All statutory data is reported to parents in the end of year written report.

Inclusion

The principles of this assessment policy apply to all pupils, including those with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND).

Assessment will be used diagnostically to contribute to the early and accurate identification of pupils' special educational needs and any requirements for support and intervention.

We will use meaningful ways of measuring all aspects of progress, including communication, social skills, physical development, resilience and independence. We will have the same high expectations of all pupils. However, this should account for the amount of effort the pupil puts in, as well as the outcomes achieved.

For pupils working below the national expected level of attainment, our assessment arrangements will consider progress relative to pupil starting points, and take this into account alongside the nature of pupils' learning difficulties.

Training

Teachers have CPD in assessment.

Teachers have the opportunity to moderate with other colleagues in the school, across Cidari Trust and with other schools in the Local Area.

Roles and responsibilities

Governors

Governors are responsible for:

- Being familiar with statutory assessment systems, as well as how the school's own system of non-statutory assessment captures the attainment and progress of all pupils
- Holding school leaders to account for improving pupil and staff performance by rigorously analysing assessment data
- Monitoring that school staff are receiving the appropriate support and training on pupil assessment, to ensure consistent application and good practice across the school

Headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for:

- Ensuring this policy is adhered to
- Monitoring standards in core and foundation subjects
- Analysing pupil progress and attainment, including individual pupils and specific groups
- Prioritising key actions to address underachievement
- Reporting to governors on all key aspects of pupil progress and attainment, including current standards and trends over previous years
- Making sure arrangements are in place so teachers can conduct assessment, marking and feedback competently and confidently, including training and moderation opportunities

Teachers

Teachers are responsible for:

- Following the assessment procedures outlined in this policy, including for effective marking and feedback
- Creating and sharing clear mark schemes for the purposes of moderation
- Being familiar with the standards for the subjects they teach
- Keeping up to date with developments in assessment practice

Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed annually by the headteacher. At every review, the policy will be shared with the governing board.

All teaching staff are expected to read and follow this policy.

Senior Leaders will monitor the effectiveness of assessment practices across the school, through: book scrutinies and pupil progress meetings.

Links with other policies

This assessment policy is linked to our:

- Curriculum policy
- Feedback policy