

The New Curriculum

In September 2014, the Government introduced a new National Curriculum with the aim of deepening children's knowledge and understanding for each year group. Under the New Curriculum the expected standard is higher than previously and pupils are required to learn more content.

The New Assessment and Tracking System

Every school has had to develop a new assessment system to track pupil progress. At St. Faith's, we will be using 6 Bands with Band 1 broadly correlating to Year 1, Band 2 correlating to Year 2 and so on to Band 6 and Year 6. Within each band there are 6 steps which are based on the new National Curriculum statements.

Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6
Beginning	Beginning Plus	Working At	Working Plus	Secure	Secure Plus
(b)	(b+)	(w)	(w+)	(s)	(s+)

Transition Through The Bands and Steps

At the end of each school year, we expect children to reach the 'Secure' (S) step. However as children have different starting points, develop at different rates and have differing needs, your child will work in a Band and Step appropriate to their level to ensure his/her learning makes sense. This means that not all children will start at 'Beginning' (B) at the start of a new year. For example, following end-of-year assessment, a Year 3 child may have only reached **Band 3, 'Working Plus' (W+)**, in which case, they would begin Year 4 at this same level and aim to reach 'Secure' (S). Our expectation is that every child will make at least 6 Steps of progress in each school year.

St. Faith's Approach To Closing Gaps And Challenging More Able Pupils

At St. Faith's, we aim for all children to reach their potential. In acknowledgement of individual differences, (highlighted by continuous teacher-based assessments) extra provision, in the form of intervention groups and challenge groups are implemented, to support targeted children. For those children who do not meet the 'Secure' (S) level by the end of the year, intervention groups will aim to accelerate progress and subsequently close any gaps.

New Key Stage National Curriculum Tests

From May 2016, end of Key Stage test results for pupils in Year 2 & Year 6 will now be reported using a standardised score where 100 is the average and will be the minimum 'expected level' for each child. Using a national standards conversion chart, the standardised score will be based on the raw score they achieve in each test. For those familiar with the former levels system, the Standards and Testing Agency have broadly indicated that:

KS1 tests (Y2) will approximately equate to a level 2b

KS2 tests (Y6) will approximately equate to a level 4b

It should be noted that levels and standardised score would otherwise not be comparable!

A Parents' Guide to Assessment at St Faith's 2016

