

Resilience - Respect - Honesty - Courage - Empathy



Active Wellbeing
INDEPENDENT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Active Wellbeing - Assessment policy

Assessment policy

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1. 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

Most of our pupils do not complete exams such as SATs as these tests are not appropriate for them. We also no longer use the P Levels that many people will be familiar with as we do not believe these are suitable anymore. Instead, we use B Squared software to complete assessments for all pupils at the school on the new frameworks they published last year. The following pages contain information for teachers and families about what we do.

2. Legislation and Statutory Guidance

This policy complies with [statutory safeguarding guidance](#) in KCSIE.

It also complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3. Principles of assessment

Assessment should be an ongoing process that takes place in each lesson through a range of methods which feeds back into whole school data systems. Pupil progress and attainment is measured using a range of assessment tools within Active Wellbeing School.

As of February 2024, the main method used to ascertain pupil progress is 'B-Squared progression steps'. B-Squared are a national company which provide assessment software to support them with their assessment. They specialise in assessment for learners with SEND. Progression Steps is an observation-based assessment framework. It helps teachers to identify and record the ongoing achievements of pupils who are working moderately or severely beneath age-related expectations in some or all areas of their development. It

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can be used with pupils who are either studying elements from a formal curriculum or those who are still engaged in a semi-formal approach to learning.

In May 2018, the DfE announced the new Pre-Key Stage Standards for Key Stages 1 and 2. This signalled the end of P Levels for pupils working above P4 for end of Key Stage assessment. B Squared progression steps framework allows us to measure the small steps of progress our learners make whilst acknowledging the move away from P Levels. Progression Steps covers a range from P4 to around Level 7 of the old National Curriculum. It supports the schools use of the new Pre-Key Stage standards from the DfE.

While B-Squared Progression Steps covers all areas of the national curriculum subjects focusing on academic attainment, at Active Wellbeing we feel it is important to assess and record the progress of all areas of the pupils' development. We use a range of methods to assess and record this data including using B-Squared Communication and Interaction assessments and our own developed Pupil Progress assessment. Pupil Progress Assessment (PPA) allows us to assess the pupils' progress around three key areas:

- Behaviour for Learning
- Personal Independence
- Relationships and Social Skills

The key principle of this policy is to outline how assessment is used across the school to ensure the Intent set out in the school's curriculum is achieved. Pupil progress and achievement is supported through the effective use of assessment.

Progress is monitored and tracked across time and across subjects using a range of performance measures including:

- baselining on entry
- teacher assessments
- results of therapeutic testing or assessments (SALT, OT)
- IEP progress and reviews
- Annual EHCP Reviews
- Review of intervention progress
- Assessment data per term
- Case Studies

4. Assessment approaches

At Active Wellbeing School we see assessment as an integral part of teaching and learning, and it is inextricably linked to our curriculum. Effective assessment within school starts with everyone having a clear understanding of the purpose and being confident to use a range of assessment types. Day-to-day formative assessment through observation, questioning and marking enables the teacher to ask, 'given what we know about this individual child, what are the next steps for learning and development and how do I adapt my teaching as a result?'

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 utilising self-assessment where appropriate to the level of needs.
- **Parents/carers** to gain a broad picture of where their child's strengths and weaknesses lie, and what they need to do to improve

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In-school formative assessment will take place throughout the entire school day which will be comprised of the following:

- The majority of formative assessment at Active Wellbeing will take place through observations. All staff work collaboratively to gather, share and use information about pupils' progress. Identification of underperformance is early, rapid and accurate.
- The marking process, which involves acknowledging and providing written and verbal feedback on a pupil's daily progress in learning.
- Termly moderation will take place which involves selecting and comparing examples of pupil's work with other subjects and schools to ensure consistency and accuracy of assessment and marking.
- The reporting process which involves sharing and informing others about a pupil's learning through a wide range of methods.

Pupil voice

At Active Wellbeing School we value the voice of our pupils, especially in evaluating their progress. We obtain pupil voice, when appropriate to their level of need, as part of their everyday learning, asking them to self-assess at the end of the lesson, termly IEP reviews and EHCP reviews. This helps give staff a good understand of where the pupils feel they are and helps to show to the pupils how far they have come, building confidence and self-esteem.

Summative assessment

Due to the complex needs of our pupils, summative assessment is difficult due to retention. We collate data termly through B-Squared which gives us a secure picture of where pupils are at and what progress they have made.

We have high aspirations and expectations for all pupils. Where appropriate, end of Key Stage SATs are sat by pupils.

5. Collecting and using data

Due to the variety of data collected at Active Wellbeing to ensure we look at the development of the child holistically, we collect data in a variety of ways.

B-Squared Progression Steps and Communication and Interaction data is captured termly. This is submitted by teachers with support of the classroom support staff.

Due to the complex needs of some of our pupils, written work is not always the most appropriate form of evidencing learning. We rely on photographic and observational evidence to capture a lot of learning which is shown in books or on Evisense. Evisense allows staff to upload their photographs and observations, linking them to the B-Squared assessment statements.

Pupil Progress data will be captured termly in line with half terms.

To ensure teachers' workload is considered when collecting data, data drops are spread throughout the school year. B-Squared Progression Steps can be updated throughout the school term when pupils have finished a topic or made progress, allowing teachers to ensure they do not have unmanageable workload at the end of the terms. Evisense also has a positive impact on teacher workload allowing staff to upload evidence and link it to progress statements quickly and easily.

6. Reporting to parents

Assessment data will be shared with parents through:

- Annual reports which include:



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- Brief details of achievements in all subjects and activities forming part of the school curriculum, highlighting strengths and areas for development
- Comments on general progress
- Arrangements for discussing the report with the pupil's teacher
- The pupil's attendance record
- At the end of KS1 and KS2:
 - o Outcomes of statutory National Curriculum teacher assessments
 - o Comparative information about the attainment of pupils of the same age in the school and pupils of the same age nationally
 - o The results of any National Curriculum tests taken, including the pupil's scaled score, and whether or not they met the 'expected standard' (KS2: required, KS1: if parents/carers request)
 - o A statement that teacher assessment outcomes take into account the results of statutory National Curriculum tests in English, reading and mathematics (KS1 only)
- EHCP review meetings
- IEP reviews
- Annual parents evening
- The results of any public examinations taken, by subject and grade
- Daily/weekly updates using our school parent communication tool – Schoolspider

7. 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.

8. Training

All staff receive annual training around how to assess through observations and how to document progress made by pupils. Any developments in assessment practice will be shared through staff meetings.

- Assessment training and support will be offered termly for teaching staff.
- Termly internal moderations will ensure teachers have a good understanding of assessment and levels of pupil's written work.
- Teachers work alongside the SENDCo to review IEPs and EHCPs to ensure they have support available.
- The Headteacher and SENDCo will ensure staff have access to continuing professional development.



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9. Roles and responsibilities

9.1 Proprietors

Proprietors 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

9.2 Headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for:

- Ensuring the 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 competently and confidently, including training and moderation opportunities

9.3 Monitoring

Teachers are responsible for:

- Following the assessment procedures outlined in this policy
- Being familiar with the standards for the subjects they teach
- Keeping up to date with developments in assessment practice

10. Monitoring of Policy Cy

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Headteacher. At every review, the policy will be shared with the Executive Headteacher and Proprietor Body.

All teaching staff are expected to read and follow this policy. Senior Leaders, Teachers and support staff responsible for ensuring that the policy is followed.

The Headteacher will monitor the effectiveness of assessment practices across the school, through:

- Moderation
- Learning walks
- Book scrutiny
- Lesson observations
- Pupil progress meetings

11. Links with other policies



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This assessment policy is linked to:

- Curriculum policy