



CHANGES TO ASSESSMENT SYSTEM FOR 2018-19

Dear Parents,

In 2015, the Government made sweeping changes to assessment, abolishing the old systems of 'levels', leaving schools to decide how they plan to assess children against **age-related expectations**. We expect that most children will finish each year working 'securely' within their age group and up until this year, children have been assessed through the school year using the judgements: Developing/Developing+, Secure/Secure+ and Exceeding/Exceeding+.

To enable staff to better measure children's progress, we have decided to make changes to our assessment judgements to support this. We hope that the changes will also create opportunities for children to display greater 'depth and breadth' across the curriculum as they move towards reaching 'secure' by the end of the academic year.

Staff have also collaboratively made changes to the age-related objectives/statements that children are judged on through the year, which will now be kept in the front of pupil books. Highlighted objectives are ones which are deemed to have the greatest impact on the further development of skills and subsequent learning for that particular year-group. Children at Priorslee will be assessed throughout the year using the following judgements:

- **Emerging** - children show an emergent grasp of the year group objectives, with some statements achieved.
- **Aspiring to meet** — children are secure in less than half of the year group objectives (approx. 25% of statements are achieved).
- **Working Within** — children are secure in approximately 50% of the objectives. Children are comprehensibly on-track to attain the skills, knowledge and understanding of the assessment criteria by the end of the year.
- **Secure (-)** - children are secure in approximately 50% of objectives **including all of the key highlighted objectives** and the remaining statements are at least working towards.
- **Secure** - children almost all (approximately 75% of objectives) are achieved **including most of the highlighted objectives** and children can use and apply skills confidently across a broad range of contexts.
- **Mastery** - children have achieved all of the statements **including all of the highlighted objectives** and children have a **deep understanding** of many of the end of year expectations. Crucially, children are able to transfer and apply their knowledge and learning in different contexts and can explain their understanding to others.

We would expect children to finish each year working 'securely' within their age group. However, children may not always be working securely in their own year group's age-expectations as all children are different; children who are on our Special Educational Needs register may be working within a lower programme of study. Please look out for copies of the new pupil assessment grids in the 'curriculum' area of our school website.

We hope that these changes make assessment processes more transparent and give greater opportunity for children to make finer steps of progress on their journey to being 'secure'.

Yours sincerely,

MR T. PLIM
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL