



Assertive Mentoring Information for Parents

In September 2014, the Department for Education (DfE) introduced a new National Curriculum for Years 1, 3, 4 & 5. Year 2 & 6 will begin using the new National curriculum from September 2015. Previously, schools have used National Curriculum levels 1-5 to assess children's understanding and these levels were reported to parents and carers on a termly basis. However we can no longer assess children's understanding using these levels as they do not match the new National Curriculum therefore we have introduced a new assessment system called 'Assertive Mentoring'.

The Aims of Assertive Mentoring are:

- to raise standards for all
- to motivate and involve children in their learning
- to inform and involve parents and carers in their child's learning

What is Assertive Mentoring?

Assertive Mentoring places the child at the centre of learning. It is a way of working that enables us to focus on each child's strengths and areas of need. It provides us with a detailed breakdown of what each child can do and clearly identifies what they need to do next to move their learning forward. It reflects the new National Curriculum 2014 and allows teachers and children to set achievable targets in reading, writing and mathematics each half term. These targets are then shared with each child during a mentoring meeting. Much of the assertive mentoring assessments use colours to assess children's understanding, the explanation behind the colours can be found below.

Assertive mentoring is based on a colour coding system:

Green	The child is meeting expectations for learning independently and consistently in all subjects.
Amber	The child has nearly met expectations for learning but requires some additional support/ effort.
Red	The child needs further support with meeting their expected targets.

Mentoring meetings:

Each half-term, your child will meet with their class teacher to discuss progress and set half-term targets. During the meeting, the teacher and child will look at children's books and completed assessments to assess what has worked well and to set achievable targets to focus on next half-term. These mentoring meetings will also replace the two parent's evenings we hold throughout the year as we feel they are more beneficial and will help your child make more progress as you are included in the mentoring process.

Stages instead of levels:

Previously, you will have received a National Curriculum level to represent your child's progress however with assertive mentoring you will now be informed that your child is working at a particular stage. Within Assertive Mentoring, the children will be working from Stage 0 to Stage 7 and within each stage there are four sub-stages the children will work through. These sub-stages can be found below:

Emerging	
Developing	
Securing	
Next Stage Ready	↓

Within each year group, we have identified a stage which we believe all children within that class should reach by the end of the academic year. These can be found below:

Year 1	
Year 2	
Year 3	
Year 4	
Year 5	
Year 6	

These will change from year to year as the new National Curriculum becomes more embedded.

We hope this has provided you all the information you need about the new assessment arrangements at Chorley New Road Primary School. However if you do have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or Mrs Kavanagh.