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Under the old levels system children who were 'exceeding' the expected standard might have moved into the next level.

The DfE now want children who are in the exceeding bracket to add more depth and breadth to their knowledge, and to have more opportunities to develop their using and applying skills. They are calling this phase of learning Mastery and Depth. Only exceptional children will move into working towards the end of year expectations, from the year above.

Similarly, children who are unlikely to be starting to meet the expectations at the end of the year, may work towards the expectations from the year below.

The key focus now is on the amount of progress that children make.

Parent Consultation

Keeping parents informed about their child's progress and achievement is essential.

Parent consultation meetings provide the opportunity to:

- Celebrate success!
- Let you know how your child is doing - their strengths and the areas that they need to work on.
- Ask questions or share any concerns.
- Share current English and Maths targets.
- Explain how you could further support your child(ren) at home.

If you would like to discuss anything with the class teacher at any other time, just make an appointment at the school office.



St Mary's Catholic School Assessment Without Levels



Our Mission Statement

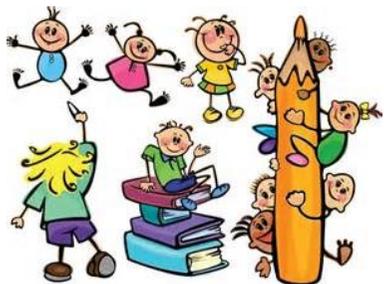
Faith is at the heartbeat of our school, as we walk with Jesus through life. St Mary's provides a safe, happy, positive place to learn, where everyone is encouraged to learn to their full potential. By showing respect love and care to each other, everyone, without exception, is valued in our school community.

Changes to Assessment

The government announced last year that there would no longer be National Curriculum levels and that schools would have to set up their own ways of assessing pupils.

This is a new way of thinking for schools, and assessment will look very different to how it has done for the past 20 years.

The aim of this guide is to give you some information about the changes that are happening in Education across the country, and what that means for the children here at St. Mary's School.



Why are levels disappearing?

The Department for Education (DfE) want to avoid what has been termed 'The Level Race' where children have moved through the old National Curriculum levels quickly to achieve higher attainment. The old National Curriculum was sub-divided into levels, but these were not linked to your child's National Curriculum year group. For example, a child in Year 4 could be a Level 3 or even a level 5. Children were achieving Level 5 and 6 at the end of Key Stage 2, but the DfE thought that a significant number were able to achieve a Level 5 or 6 in a test—but were not secure at that level (Level 6 is GCSE level).

The feeling from the DfE was that the old National Curriculum and the levels system failed to adequately ensure that children had a breadth and depth of knowledge at each national curriculum level.

Assessment at St Mary's

We will continue to track your child's progress and share this with you as we have in the past. The new National Curriculum (2014) sets out expectations for each year group and children will be assessed against those throughout each year.

St Mary's have chosen to use an Assessment Programme called Target Tracker. Teachers will give each child a target for the end of the year in relation to these expectations.

The assessments will be referred to as:

- *beginning to meet* the expected standard
- *working within* the expected standard
- *securely working at* the expected standard