

To: Headteachers of Primary and Special Schools (Primary), Short Stay Schools (Primary), and Support Services

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Your ref:  
Our ref: LSIS/MT/PB/CM  
Date: September 2024

Dear Colleague

Welcome back to the Autumn term, I hope that you had a good summer break and managed time to rest and recharge your batteries. Hopefully, the first 2 weeks of term are going well and children and staff are enjoying their return to school. I am writing with some brief updates regarding statutory assessment.

### **STA updates**

STA release regular email updates regarding statutory assessments throughout the school year. These are usually sent fortnightly and will support you in identifying key dates and actions that are needed.

If you have not already signed up to receive these updates, then I would encourage you to do so. This can be done here: [Get emails from GOV.UK - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

### **Key Stage 2 Data Checking Exercise**

The 2023 KS2 September checking exercise website opens on **9<sup>th</sup> September until Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September**. Schools should check the data is accurate and consider any possible withdrawals that meet DfE criteria. The website can be accessed here:

[Check Your Performance Measures Data \(education.gov.uk\)](http://education.gov.uk)

Please note this is a different website from previous years. You will need a DfE sign in to access this portal.

There have been changes to some of the criteria that are acceptable to apply for removal of a child's data from the schools' results.

Firstly, if a child has been admitted from abroad with English not as a first language. The criteria required:

- English is not their first language; and
- English is not an official language of their country of origin; and
- their **first** admission to a school in England was **on, or after, 1 September 2021**.

Secondly, there is also the option of applying using exceptional circumstances if a child was admitted new to the country prior to September 2021 OR they have been educated in more than one school.

**Lancashire County Council**  
PO Box 100, County Hall, Preston, PR1 0LD



For all applications there is a list of evidence that is required and the guidance states that if all of this is not provided then the application will not be considered. The full guidance is available on this website [Check Your Performance Measures Data \(education.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-your-performance-measures-data).

Please do take time to read the guidance as it is substantial and may affect your cohort from 2023/2024.

### **Statutory Assessment in 2024/2025**

The following statutory Primary Assessments will go ahead in 2024/25:

This includes the:

- end of KS2 assessments (including tests and teacher assessment)
- reception baseline assessment
- phonics screening check
- year 4 multiplication tables check
- completion of EYFS profile
- statutory trialling

**KS1 assessments remain optional.** This includes teacher assessment in reading, writing and maths and KS1 tests in reading, writing and maths. There is no legal requirement for schools to report data to the local authority or DfE. Schools also do not need to report results to parents.

STA will continue to develop and supply materials for reading, writing, maths and grammar, punctuation and spelling if schools wish to use these for their own internal purposes. Further details can be found here:

[Standards and Testing Agency - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/standards-and-testing-agency)

### **Reception Baseline Assessment**

Just a reminder for you to complete the Reception Baseline within the first six weeks of term. The Deadline for the completion of the Headteacher Declaration Form is Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November. This is done on the Baseline ePortal. The Assessment and Reporting Arrangements (ARA) for the Baseline can be found here:

[2024 reception baseline assessment: assessment and reporting arrangements - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/2024-reception-baseline-assessment-assessment-and-reporting-arrangements)

### **Updated statutory guidance documents (ARA)**

The Standards and Testing Agency will be updating the Assessment and Reporting Arrangements (ARA) documents for EYFS, Phonics and KS2 for 2024/2025. These are expected to become available in October. They will be posted online at The Standards and Testing Agency and tweeted via [@lancsassessment](https://twitter.com/lancsassessment). There are considerable statutory requirements for Headteachers regarding assessment. Once the ARA documents are released the Assessment Calendar that we produce will be sent to you with all key dates on. In addition, I will run some free short webinars for Headteachers to



talk you through these requirements. Details of these and how to access them will be communicated in due course.

### **Primary Accountability 2023/24**

The Department for Education updated the Primary Accountability document, with information around the use of data from 2023/24 and details about calculation of progress methods. This document can be found here:

[Primary school accountability in 2024: technical guide \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

Some of the key points:

Primary assessment data will be published in December 2024 on Compare School and College Performance (CCSP)

There will be no progress measures for the data from 2023-2024 as previously announced as there is no KS1 data for this cohort. This will be the same for the current cohort of Year 6 children. In 2025/2026 and 2026/2027 it will be possible to report progress measures.

When the KS2 performance measures are published in December there will be further information warning of the limitations of using only attainment data to interpret school performance.

### **Key stage 2 attainment (provisional): 2024**

On 10<sup>th</sup> September the Department for Education released the KS2, 2024 provisional headlines for data. This document can be accessed here:

[Key stage 2 attainment, Academic year 2023/24 - Explore education statistics - GOV.UK \(explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk\)](https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk)

### **Lancashire School Information Profile (LSIP)**

For schools who buy into the School Improvement Service Guarantee (SISG) or have chosen to sign up for the Lancashire School Information Profile (LSIP) I am pleased to be able to say that work on these has progressed well over the summer holiday. The Pupil Characteristics section of the LSIP was uploaded to Lancashire ROSE in August and is available for you to view. This will be followed by the attainment section soon. (This is considerably earlier than in previous years). Further information will be sent on their release and will all be available to you in your secure Lancashire Rose area. (<https://rose.lancashire.gov.uk/>)

Any Schools that do not buy into the School Improvement Service Guarantee and missed the opportunity to request an LSIP but wish to, please complete the following click form to sign up:

<https://clickquestion.lancashire.gov.uk/runQuestionnaire.asp?qid=874373>



## **Tracking**

The Lancashire Tracker continues to be reviewed and updated regularly and training sessions run online throughout the school year. If any schools are interested in using the Tracker or have any queries, please email [Philip.Gittins@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:Philip.Gittins@lancashire.gov.uk)

## **Courses and CPD 2024/25**

We are pleased to offer a full programme for Assessment Courses and CPD for 2024/25. As with each year, these have been evaluated and changes made to ensure that we are able to cover the requirements of Primary Schools. In most cases, courses have both venue and online options. As a team we are very happy to work with you to meet your needs for Assessment Training whilst being aware of the pressure on School budgets. As such, we can provide any training for individual Schools or for clusters of Schools, if that is beneficial.

Some key assessment courses to take note of:

- NEW: Interrogating and Understanding the LSIP and Closing the Gap reports. [NEW: Understanding the LSIP and Closing the Gap reports](#) – This will focus solely on your LSIP, including the Closing the Gap reports. Sessions are at the beginning of October, allowing you to analyse your data in a prompt way at the beginning of the year.
- An introduction to assessment in EYFS [EYFS assessment - Lancashire Professional Development Service](#)
- Year 2 – life after statutory assessment [Y2 teachers Effective Assessment Strategies](#)
- Year 6 – preparing for end of KS2 Assessment [Year 6 teachers - Understanding the procedures](#)
- Understanding Primary Data - [Understanding Primary Data IDSR, ASP and LSIP](#) – This is the wider data course and will focus on all data packages from the DfE and OFSTED. These sessions run later in the Autumn Term, upon their release.

More will be added if there is demand. All Assessment courses can be accessed here: [Assessment Courses](#)

Many of you may have attended one or more of the 'Great Teaching' Courses. This programme has been widened further and has a dedicated area on the website where they can be viewed This includes some fantastic packages of sustained CPD that can be accessed across the year:

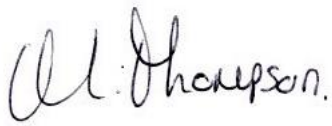
[Great Teaching](#)

All the courses can be adapted to individual schools or delivered to clusters/MATS etc. Please email [mike.thompson@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:mike.thompson@lancashire.gov.uk) for further information.

I wish you all the best for the new academic year,



Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

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