

Here are my notes from this term's meeting, as usual a really interesting and informative evening.

**1. Assessment without national curriculum levels.**

Sue Langdon gave an excellent presentation on this issue and I am more than happy to email you copies of the handouts for a deeper explanation.

There is a very useful talk by Tim Oates on YouTube - which is worth parents watching - to explain deeper about why national curriculum levels needed to be removed.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-q5vrBXFpm0>

Sept 2016 - Reception baseline becomes the only way for progress to be measured for accountability.

Summer 2017 - the first new GCSE & A-Levels will be sat, based on "Progress 8" and scored in number format 9-1 rather than grades A\*, A, B, C etc.

Along with the introduction of the new national curriculum, reforms have been made to the assessment and accountability systems for primary schools, which no longer use the NC levels. A lot more emphasis is made on individual's progress over time.

The problem with levels was that they were driving everything that was being taught, there was less breadth and depth to the learning experience. Particularly in maths, which proved to be too linear and the lack of base knowledge then affected performance at GCSE. Levels didn't lend themselves to assessing the underpinning knowledge and understanding of a concept.

From 2016 KS2 assessments will be reported as scaled scores based on test results for Reading and Maths. A scaled score of 100 shows a pupil has achieved the national standard. The national standard is NOT necessarily the national average. Teacher Assessment for Writing reported as performance descriptors – Below national standard / working towards national standard / national standard / above national standard / Mastery standard.

For KS1 from 2016 teacher assessment in Reading, Writing and Maths will be reported as 1 of 4 performance descriptors – Below national standard/working towards national standard/national standard/mastery standard.

**2. Child Sexual Exploitation**

Jill Aiken (Quality Assurance & Improvement Advisor) presented this subject with the purpose of helping us understand what child sexual exploitation is and its prevalence in Poole. CSE is happening in all areas and is abuse, it happens to boys and girls and we need to be aware of how to protect our children and spot early signs. Schools are involved in this through the provision of PHSE (Personal Health and Social Education) from an early age to encourage positive relationships, safe ICT use and so on. I have a power point presentation if any parent would like a copy, which includes online resources.

### **3. School Attendance**

Rachel Gauntlett (Outreach and Attendance Dept) presented this topic. They offer a free service to schools to help schools, parents and pupils with non-attendance issues. It isn't about prosecuting parents and issuing fines, but first and foremost about supporting families and trying different strategies to help solve any underlying issues which are causing the repeated lateness and non-attendance. We also discussed the "Holiday Fines" which are penalty notices you can receive if your child has unauthorised absences, eg. holidays in term time. The school collates the information on unauthorised absences and sends it to the Local Authority (Academies are included in this process) who review it and issue the penalty notice, which is £60.00 per child, per period of absence. You have 21 days to pay this amount and then the individual charge increases to £120.00. There are reporting inconsistencies between schools which are being looked into. The Government set this £60.00 figure.

**The next meeting is Monday 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016. Remember that each school can have two parent representatives so if any parent would like to join me at the next meeting please get in touch.**

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