



Spring 2009

PRIMARY & ASSESSMENT NEWSLETTER

Cambridgeshire Advisory Service

Special points of interest:

- KS2 National Tests 2009
- EYFSP and KSI Moderation

Inside this issue:

Rose Review of the Primary Curriculum: Interim report	1
KS2 National Tests 2009	2
EYFSP and KSI Moderation	3
Assessment Network Meetings	4
Forthcoming courses	4

To: Primary Teachers and Assessment Leaders

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Rose Review of the Primary Curriculum: Interim Report

The interim report was published at the end of last term. The five areas outlined in the report are:

1. Curriculum design & content

The rationale is driven by the need to reduce curriculum overload and over-prescription. The proposal for the curriculum is to promote challenging subject teaching alongside equally challenging cross-curricular studies, with essential content identified. Six areas of learning have been identified to dovetail with the EYFS framework:

- Understanding English, communication & languages
- Mathematical understanding
- Scientific & technological understanding
- Human, social & environmental understanding
- Understanding physical health & well-being
- Understanding the arts &

design

It is suggested that the new primary curriculum might be set out in three 2-year phases.

2. Reading, writing & numeracy

The review remit insists that literacy, numeracy and ICT must be prioritised, with ample opportunities to apply them across the curriculum. Speaking & listening skills are identified as essential in their own right.

3. Personal Development

The review is working towards a framework for personal development that builds on good practice, and in particular, SEAL.

4. Transition & progression

The review proposes a single point of entry to reception class, in the September following a child's 4th birthday. Transition from primary to secondary school is to be dealt with in the final report, with an emphasis on curricular continuity and progression.

5. Introducing languages at KS2

The review will recommend that schools should focus on teaching only one or two languages, and preferably those that will be taught at KS3.

Responses to the report should be made by 28 February via www.dcsf.gov.uk/primarycurriculumreview

Personalised Learning & Creativity Steering Group

There has been a very good response from schools expressing an interest in the 'Open School' fortnight from 2 –12 March. If you would like to share what is happening in your school, please contact me by the end of January to be included in the schedule.

If you would like to visit other schools in Cambridgeshire look out for the details which will be circulated by February half-term.

To find out more about the Steering Group or the 'Open School' fortnight, contact Heather Mephram (Chair, Personalised Learning and Creativity Steering Group)

If your school is involved in a project or piece of work that you are willing to share, please let Heather know.

APP

Assessing pupils' progress (APP) also features in the Primary Curriculum Review. The Children's Plan states that 'APP is to be used universally in schools throughout England'.

AfL Consultant

We are very pleased to welcome Suzanne Carter to the team as an AfL consultant. You will be able to meet Suzanne at the Assessment Network meetings.

Assessment Network meetings

This year these sessions are focusing on APP and the autumn term meetings

were used to outline the process and share the benefits and pitfalls experienced by some of the pilot schools. Assessment leaders were asked to work with senior leaders, literacy and numeracy subject leaders and EYFS colleagues to gain an understanding of where their schools are and how best to support the introduction of APP.

The spring term Assessment Network meetings will focus on identification of support through the use of the APP self-assessment grid. Attendees will be funded to support the gap task.

Agenda

1. Updates (EYFS, KS1, KS2)
2. Feedback on APP rollout
3. Reviewing AfL & APP
4. APP glossary
5. Portfolio of evidence
6. Gap task

If you have not already done so, places can be secured (see back page for booking instructions) at the following venues:

21.01.09 (18415) Kingsfield Primary, Chatteris

27.01.09 (18416) St Mary's, St Neots

29.01.09 (18417) Bar Hill Primary

All meetings are from 4.15—5.45

KS2 National Tests 2009

The procedure for applying for additional time to complete the tests or early opening of test papers is the same as last year. If you have not used the NAA website to make the applications before and are unsure how to do this please phone Alison Quinlan on 01480 372406. All schools should have a user name and password for the website but if you do not have access to yours, or get locked out of the site, again please phone either Alison or Linda Bartlett. The Access to Learning Specialist Teaching team can help you

with the specialised testing needed to supply evidence for additional time applications but please don't leave asking them to the last minute. The website closes at **5pm on 2nd March 2009**. If you admit a pupil who needs extra time for the tests after that date please phone Alison. Those are the only circumstances when permission for additional time can be granted after 2nd March.

The KS2 Assessment and Reporting Arrangements booklet should be in all schools by now and can also be accessed online at naa.org.uk. Details of all special arrangements are in this booklet and you will need to decide which are the most appropriate to ensure none of the pupils are disadvantaged in the tests. Whatever arrangements you use should be part of your normal provision for that pupil. In exceptional circumstances a pupil can be disapplied from taking the tests but not from teacher assessment. Disapplication is only relevant when the pupil is working at the level of the tests. Pupils attaining below level 3 should not be entered for the tests but this is not disapplication. The results for all pupils, whether they are entered as B (working below the level of the test) or D (disapplied) count in the school's overall totals. EAL pupils who join the cohort in Year 5 may have their results removed from the school's total, at the school's discretion. Details of this are sent direct to schools by the DCSF when the results are collated for publication.

The national test administration conferences were cancelled last term and Alison is instead attending one on January 27th. She will let you know what is covered, by email to the headteacher, as soon after the conference as possible.

EYFSP and KS1 moderation

You will be receiving letters this half term telling you whether your school can expect to receive a visit from a moderator or be invited to a meeting this year. Moderators will then be in touch to arrange a convenient time to visit. Both teams have new members this year. Please make sure that you have thought about what evidence you need to support your judgements in plenty of time so that they are secure.

KS1 Moderation

There will be extra optional twilight moderation meetings this term and next for Science, Mathematics and English. Details can be found under the Assessment tab on the CAS portal pages.

Early Years Foundation Stage Profile

You should have received extra copies of the EYFSP handbook by now, if on your data return for moderation there were more than 2 teachers identified in Foundation Stage. Please contact Mel Budd on 01480 375713 if you have any queries about this. A reminder that the EYFSP handbook supersedes the Additional Guidance that was produced in 2007. It is important that you moderate against the exemplification in the **Handbook** as again there are some slight differences in expectation. Particularly look at Writing 8, before finalising your judgements. Remember that no more than 20% of the evidence to support judgements for EYFSP can come from adult led or adult directed activities. If you have any queries about this please contact Jane Gedny on 01480 375593.

Portal

A site for general Primary matters continues development over the coming year.

The Assessment site is also under review. The address is <http://c97.e2bn.net/e2bn/leas/c99/schools/c97/web/public/Assessment/Subject%20Contact/CAS%20Assessment%20Support/>

Assessment Network Meetings

Spring Term

- 21 Jan 09 Kingsfield Primary, Chatteris, 18415
- 27 Jan 09 St Mary's, St Neots, 18416
- 29 Jan 09 Bar Hill Primary, 18417

Summer Term

- 23 June 09 Huntingdon Primary, 18418
- 24 June 09 Milton Primary, 18419
- 25 June 09 Duxford Primary, 18420

Courses

- 20 Jan 09 Teaching Scientific Enquiry Skills
King's Bush Centre
9.30 - 4.00 (18411)
- 10 Feb 09 School Self-evaluation, Lesson
Observation & Feedback
Hemingford Grey Pavilion
9.30 - 4.00 (18401)
- 11 Feb 09 Teaching Primary Science
& 26 Feb 09 Over Community Centre
9.30 - 4.00 (18410)
- 25 Feb 09 Creating a Coaching Culture
Hemingford Grey Pavilion
9.15 - 4.00 (18392)
- 2 -12 Mar 09 Open Schools Fortnight
- 26 Mar 09 Deputy Head Conference
Marriott Hotel, Peterborough
9.00 - 4.00 (18421)

375634/375597 or e-mail :

CAS@cambridgeshire.gov.uk quoting the relevant programme code.



A vacancy has arisen for the role of teacher co-ordinator on the Cambridge Learning Bus. If you are interested in this unique and exciting opportunity please visit the Learning Bus Portal site on <http://c99.e2bn.net/e2bn/leas/c99/schools/c92/web/public/Cambridge%20Learning%20Bus/>.

The post is advertised on the EPM website and the closing date is 19th January 2009.

Further information and details about the post may be obtained from Heather Mepham.

To book a place telephone 01480

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