



# MICKLEOVER PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Carers,

As many of you may be aware, the Department for Education has recently removed assessing with levels for children in primary schools. Schools have been encouraged to create their own non-level based assessment system. This was to tie in with the New National Curriculum which came into schools in September 2014.

## Key Curriculum Changes

So, what are the changes to the curriculum? It would take far too long to cover the whole curriculum, particularly in any great depth as there have been lots of changes; the new curriculum is a lot more prescriptive in English and Maths, but less prescriptive in other subjects.

The expectations of the children are now much higher than ever before, with much of the curriculum being shifted down into lower year groups, particularly in Maths and English. For example, some of the old Year 5 expectations can now be found in the Year 3 curriculum and likewise, Year 7/8 expectations in Years 5 and 6.

The raised expectations mean that children need to have a very secure knowledge of the program of study for their year group and depth of understanding and application. (See end of year expectations leaflet)

## How do we assess your child?

DfE – statutory assessments:

- Reception – Baseline, EYFS profile
- Year 1 – Phonics check
- Year 2 and Year 6 – end of Key Stage assessments (SATs)

Other assessments:

- Ongoing teacher assessment
- Termly data check-points in Reading, Writing and Maths
- Years 3-5, end of year annual progress test in Reading , Grammar and Maths

## Statutory Assessments

### Year 6

#### English

##### Reading

The reading test will be a single paper with questions based on 3 or 4 unrelated texts with an emphasis on comprehension.

##### Grammar, punctuation and spelling test

The grammar, punctuation and spelling test will consist of two parts: a **grammar and punctuation paper** requiring short answers, and an **aural spelling test of 20 words**.

##### Writing

There is no 'formal' test in writing. The judgement is based on the writing assessments done during the year.

#### Maths

There will be three papers in maths:

- Paper 1: **arithmetic** - written, not mental; (number, calculations and fractions, decimals and percentages) This will consist of fixed response questions, where children have to give the correct





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answer to calculations, including long multiplication and division. Each question will have a grid to encourage working out.

• Papers 2 and 3: **mathematical fluency, solving problems and reasoning**. Mathematical problems will be presented in a wide range of formats to ensure pupils can fully demonstrate mathematical fluency, problem solving & reasoning.

## Reports

It is very important that parents recognise that the expectations of the new national curriculum are much higher now at the end of each year group. Pupils being judged on the expectations for the end of Year 5, for example, may still have gaps and may not reach the expected outcomes for their year group this year.

In Years 1, 3, 4 and 5, as in previous years, the report will inform you if your child is working at, at greater depth, or hasn't yet reached the expectations for their year group.

**All year group end of year expectations will be put onto the website, so you can refer to these as your child moves into a new year group.**