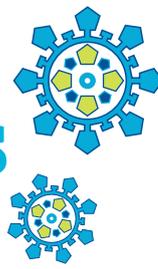


Coronavirus crisis

What you need to know: Assessment Primary



- 1** Formal assessment in English primary schools during the rest of the school year 2019/20 is cancelled. The cancellation applies to: end of key stage 1 and key stage 2 assessments (including tests and teacher assessment); phonics screening check; multiplication tables check; science sampling tests; and the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile.
- 2** Primary school performance measures will not be published for the 2019/20 academic year.
- 3** The joint statement published by the NEU, ASCL and NAHT makes clear that 'it is not reasonable, or feasible, for schools to continue to provide a "normal" school education during this time'. As the NEU's advice on Distance Learning underlines, 'keeping minds active and happy, ready to return to school when the time comes is the most important factor.'
- 4** It would be inappropriate for schools to be setting SATs tests or mocks at this time. As the DfE has frequently stated, SATs are an accountability measure, not the basis of the curriculum.
- 5** The future of primary assessment is being kept under review by the DfE. Baseline Assessment, due to be implemented in September 2020, and KS1 and KS2 SATs in 2021 are part of this review. Our advice is that schools should not make any preparations, whether teaching or administrative, in respect of 2020/21 assessment.
- 6** Schools may wish to provide parents with an end of year report on pupils. Our advice is that this should be 'light touch' and should not contain detailed reference to pupil performance against national curriculum programmes of study, or their equivalent.
- 7** At all times, school policies for teaching and learning in the new situation should be developed through consultation between school leaders and their staff. The joint statement by NEU, ASCL and NAHT underlines that 'School leaders should, wherever possible, consult with union representatives before publishing protocols and consider comments from staff generally when keeping those protocols under review. School leaders will already be consulting the advice provided for them by their own organisation. They should also consider the advice published by other trade unions via their websites.'