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Standards
& Testing
Agency

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Stakeholder update

Information: government responds to primary assessment consultation

The Department for Education has today [published](#) the government's response to the 'Primary assessment in England' consultation.

The [response](#) confirms the government's intention to:

- move to a more flexible approach of assessing English writing from the 2017 to 2018 academic year onwards
- change the starting point for primary school progress measures to the reception year - with a new statutory assessment to be introduced in reception from 2020
- remove the statutory status of end of key stage 1 assessments once the reception baseline assessment has become fully established, from 2023
- remove the duty for teachers to assess pupils against statutory English reading and mathematics frameworks at the end of key stage 2 from the 2018 to 2019 academic year onwards
- improve the early years foundation stage profile by clarifying the descriptors underpinning the Early Learning Goals and reviewing supporting guidance
- introduce an online multiplication tables check to be taken by pupils at the end of year 4 from the 2019 to 2020 academic year

The government has also [responded](#) to a parallel consultation on the recommendations of the Rochford Review of assessment arrangements for pupils working below the standard of the national curriculum tests.

2017 to 2018 revised teacher assessment frameworks

Alongside the government responses to these consultations, we have also today published teacher assessment frameworks for use in the 2017 to 2018 academic year, which include revised frameworks for the assessment of English writing that provide teachers with greater flexibility when making judgements about their pupils' work. Further guidance and exemplification materials will be published later in the autumn term. Revised frameworks for the assessment of English reading, mathematics and science will be published in due course for use from the 2018 to 2019 academic year.

Additionally, we've updated the interim pre-key stage standards for English writing, used for pupils working below the overall standard of national curriculum tests, to align with changes made to the frameworks. These standards should be used in the 2017 to 2018 academic year. Revised pre-key stage standards for all subjects will be published in due course for use from the 2018 to 2019 academic year onwards.

If you have any queries about the government's responses to these consultations please contact the assessment policy team at PrimaryAssessment.CONSULTATION@education.gov.uk or the Rochford Review team at Rochford.Review@education.gov.uk.

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