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Standards  
& Testing  
Agency

## Primary assessment

### Information: government response to Rochford Review recommendations

You will have seen that the government has published its [response](#) to the public consultation on the recommendations of the Rochford Review. We have set out our plans for the statutory assessment of pupils working below the standard of national curriculum tests. They include 2 important changes planned for the near future.

For pupils engaged in subject-specific learning but working below the standard of national curriculum tests, we will implement the review's proposal to extend the pre-key stage standards to cover all of these pupils. The full suite of pre-key stage standards will be published for use from the 2018 to 2019 academic year onwards. P scales should continue to be used, where appropriate, in the 2017 to 2018 academic year.

For pupils not yet engaged in subject-specific learning, we will pilot the review's recommended approach to assessing these pupils against the 7 areas of engagement for cognition and learning, before taking any final decisions on whether to implement this approach on a statutory basis. If accepted, this change would take effect from the 2019 to 2020 academic year. In the meantime, schools should continue to use the P scales when assessing pupils not engaged in subject-specific learning.

We will be working with teachers and other educational experts to trial both of these changes. If you would like to volunteer to take part in this work, or need further information, please contact [Rochford.Review@education.gov.uk](mailto:Rochford.Review@education.gov.uk).

## Key stage 2

### Reminder: submit your school's 2017 to 2018 holiday dates

Please enter your school's holiday dates for the 2017 to 2018 academic year in the 'Test Orders' section of [NCA tools](#). You should include inset days, where applicable, in your holiday dates.

This will allow us to avoid these dates when we plan the delivery of 2018 test materials.

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