

Assessment, Moderation and Monitoring Update



Spring 2025

Welcome to the
Spring Term edition
of updates from the
Assessment team.

Phonic Screening Check and Monitoring Updates

Phonics screening check and KS2 Sats monitoring visits will take place before, during and after the relevant administration week. Further information will be provided at the end of key stage briefing: 3/04/25 on MS Teams 13:30-14:30

CPD for those new to administering phonics screen check:
6/5/25 Spon Gate Primary 15:30 – 17:00

There is no LA responsibility to monitor the Y4 Multiplication Tables Check.

A reminder: Dates for 2024-2025

On Tuesday 1 October, STA updated their primary assessments future dates with the:

- detailed timetable for the KS2 tests in May 2025
- new downloadable KS2 calendar with all important dates for the academic year 2024 to 2025
- expected dates for tests and assessments in primary school throughout the academic year 2026 to 2027

They have also since added the KS1 calendar.

STA Assessment Timetable Academic year 2024 to 2025

Reception baseline assessment

Schools must complete the reception baseline assessment for each child in the first 6 weeks after they enter reception.

Early years foundation stage profile assessment

Schools must complete the early years foundation stage profile assessment between April and June of the academic year in which children turn 5, which is usually the reception year.

Optional key stage 1 tests

It is recommended by STA that the optional key stage 1 tests are administered during May 2025.

Key stage 2 tests

The statutory key stage 2 tests are timetabled from Monday 12 May to Thursday 15 May 2025

Multiplication tables check

Schools must administer the multiplication tables check within the 2-week period from Monday 2 June 2025.

Phonics screening check

Schools must administer the phonics screening check within the 1-week period from Monday 9 June 2025.

STA Updates: independence in Writing KS2

STA have again added to their guidance on independent writing at the end of KS2, to include **the use of AI**:

Writing is not independent if it has been:

- *modelled or heavily scaffolded – as part of external moderation, local authority moderators can discuss where they find modelled or scaffolded writing, and they may ask for further examples of a pupil's work to support the standard and judgement*
- *copied or paraphrased, including producing work that demonstrates an over-reliance on a model text*
- *edited or re-written because of direct intervention by a teacher or other adult – for example, when the pupil has been directed to change specific words for greater impact, where incorrect or omitted punctuation has been indicated, or when incorrectly spelt words have been identified by an adult for the pupil to correct*
- *produced with the support of electronic aids that automatically provide correct spelling, synonyms, punctuation or predictive text – if the electronic aid is turned off, such as spell check and grammar in a word programme, this would be considered independent*
- **produced, either in full or in part, using large language models or other forms of artificial intelligence – use of these could result in the school being investigated for maladministration**
- *supported by detailed success criteria that specifically direct pupils what to include, or where to include it, in their writing – for example, directing them to include specific vocabulary, grammatical features or punctuation.*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/key-stage-2-teacher-assessment-guidance/key-stage-2-teacher-assessment-guidance#assessing-english-writing>

Moderation Recruitment 2024/5

We are pleased to continue with a strong moderation team this year. After successfully completing training and a rigorous standardisation exercise, the Coventry team for 24/25 comprises of 20 experienced moderators plus 4 new recruits. The team will continue to strengthen their expertise with a further day's training this term, as well as supporting with central Y6 cpd on 1st and 2nd April.

We are grateful for the support of schools in enabling Moderators to have time out of school across the year - we appreciate this is not always easy to facilitate.

External Moderation

Schools will be notified on Friday 16th May of external moderation. Y6 teachers and senior leaders will then be invited to meet the Moderators on Wednesday 21st May. Moderation Week runs from 16th-19th June. Wherever possible we aim to allocate times during that week to suit schools.

CPD opportunities and support for Y6 teachers

Y6 Standardisation and Moderation central session at Friargate 1.04.25 OR 2.04.25 1-4pm

For teacher assessment to be accurate, robust and reliable, it is important that all staff participate in standardisation activities and moderate their judgements. Therefore the Local Authority offers the opportunity for Y6 staff to attend a central standardisation and moderation session - an invaluable session for Y6 teachers led by the KS2 Moderation Manager. STA updates and good practice with regard external moderation will be shared, as well as the use of standardisation materials. Teachers are asked to bring collections of pupils' work for discussion alongside Coventry moderators. This is ideal preparation for making final TA judgements.

Please use the following link to access details of this and all other CPD offers:

<https://coventry.gov.uk/assessment-moderation-monitoring-data-collection/services-schools-assessment-moderation-monitoring-data-collection/3>

Y6 Writing Updates

Last term Julia Etheridge, Moderation Manager, initiated a regular email support for Y6 teachers, to include STA materials, updates and resources. So far content covered has included distinguishing between WTS and EXS, Pre-Key Stage standards and writing for a range of purposes from WTS to GDS. Please do let Julia know if any of your staff would appreciate being added to the mailing list for these updates.

Useful Resources

STA have not provided any new cpd materials this year. However, their previous materials are very useful and can be found on the PAG:

- Standardisation exercises 2018-2024
- STA self-study materials for 2022/23 and 2023/24 -useful materials in developing subject knowledge and deepening an understanding of standards.

All moderators have completed cpd using these materials and would be pleased to support their networks in how best to use them.

Contact Details

Helen Masefield, Education Standards, Performance and Governance Lead
helen.masefield@coventry.gov.uk

Kevin Coughlan, Data Team Performance Manager
kevin.coughlan@coventry.gov.uk

Julia Etheridge, KS2 Moderation Manager
julia.etheridge@coventry.gov.uk