

Assessment, Moderation and Monitoring Update



Summer 2025

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

KS2 Sats Monitoring

KS2 Sats monitoring visits took place before, during and after the relevant administration week.

As last year, where good practice was observed:

- Governors attended to observe
- Schools were well prepared
- Guidance was followed
- Practice papers had been taken to determine whether or not additional time would have an impact
- Pupils were well supported in a calm atmosphere
- Pupils having to wait for those with Additional Time to finish seemed to have reduced

The number of Additional Time applications and absences also seems to have reduced. Interestingly, the number of applications for extra time nationally has almost doubled since 2015.

It was clear again, however, that despite LA briefings and all STA's published guidance, some HT's had not read the latest guidance, particularly these paragraphs:

8.1 Checking your test papers and stationery delivery

We recommend the headteacher or delegated member of staff, and at least one other member of school staff, check your delivery on receipt. Schools should check their delivery to ensure:

- the school's details are correct, and the delivery is for your school
- the boxes and test packs are sealed and undamaged

8.2 Security of test materials

Headteachers must ensure the integrity, security and confidentiality of the KS2 test materials are maintained from the point they arrive in school until Friday 23 May, after the timetable variation period has ended and all test scripts have been collected for marking.

Headteachers should ensure teachers and all other staff who may handle the materials understand their sensitivity.

The headteacher should allocate responsibility for overseeing the secure storage of test materials to a member of staff not directly involved with the administration of the tests.

This member of staff should take responsibility for the secure storage of test materials. As part of that responsibility, they should keep a log of requests for access to the materials, so they are able to give an accurate account of everyone with access to the test materials from the point they arrive in school until Friday 23 May and all test scripts have been collected for marking.

Data Check 25th June

Head Teachers should supply a copy of the HTDF for all relevant returns to samantha.lord@coventry.gov.uk

Data Team Update

Pupils Newly Arrived from Overseas

There is a process to request that pupils newly arrived from Overseas be discounted from your Key Stage 2 results. This applies to pupils who meet the following criteria:

- They did not attend an English school before the start of Year 4
- They do not speak English as a first language
- They did not come to England from a country which has English as an official language (according to a list published by the DfE)

The Data Team will shortly be in touch to ask whether you intend to have any pupils discounted through this process, and will provide a list of pupils they believe might be eligible. They will then adjust the local early releases of the Key Stage 2 results to account for them.

Please remember that the Data Team's collection of Overseas pupils is not the official DfE process; you will need to make an official request for the discounts as part of the September checking exercise. The Data Team cannot make those requests on your behalf.

Any queries about the Key Stage 2 data processes can be sent to David Woodhouse (david.woodhouse@coventry.gov.uk - 02476 971744)

Central Standardisation and Moderation of Writing KS2 April 2025

Coventry schools came together in April at Friargate for a standardisation and moderation session. The latest updates were given and frequently asked questions answered, including topics such as particular weakness, handwriting and levels of independence.

Teachers were advised on essential reading for moderation, such as the STA document on pupils working below the national curriculum assessment standard i.e. pre-key stage standards, and of course the Teacher Assessment Guidance. It was also suggested that exemplification collections of writing were invaluable in supporting a stronger understanding of the standards, and in particular the commentaries within them. All collections are available on the PAG.

Teachers worked to complete a standardisation exercise, using STA collections, and then spent time identifying the standard of children's writing they had brought with them.

The benefits of the central session lie in having moderators on each table to support and teachers justifying judgements to colleagues from other schools, which can ensure a more rigorous process. It is an ideal opportunity to prepare for making final TA judgements and moderation.

Statutory External Moderation of Writing KS2 16th-18th June 2024/5

KS2 moderation is part of the Local Authority's statutory duty to quality assure writing teacher assessment at KS2.

This year 24 schools are being externally moderated. The relevant Y6 teachers and senior staff attended a briefing on 21st May where they had the opportunity to meet their moderators, ask questions and make arrangements for TA data swap under the Coventry Local Agreement.

Essential reading prior to external moderation:

The Coventry Statutory KS2 Moderation Guidance 2024-25. This gives detailed information about the roles and responsibilities of school, moderator and LA, and sets out the remoderation and appeals processes.

STA KS2 Teacher Assessment Guidance for schools and local authorities

Both documents can be found here:

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

Network Moderation

We are grateful for the time and expertise given by those Coventry moderators who support network moderation. They continue to meet each term as a group, to share good practice and support organisation. It has been clear again this year, that the most successful sessions were where Y6 teachers had time within the school day to focus on both standardisation and moderation.

At this stage in the Summer term, schools will no doubt be identifying dates and planning network moderation for the academic year 2025-26. When considering the content of each term's meetings, the Autumn term session may have greater impact, dependent on when it takes place in the term, if focused more on standardisation, in order to clarify and deepen understanding of the standards. This would further support accurate judgements going forward. The PAG contains numerous Standardisation Exercises with commentaries that are ideal for this.

Y6 Writing Updates

Last term the Writing Updates emails to Y6 teachers covered areas such as writing for a range of purposes (particularly useful to ensure potential GDS writers are given the right opportunities), and a useful document which details the context and types of writing found in three years worth of standardisation materials.

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

For all queries relating to teacher assessment and test administration:

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For all moderation queries:

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