



Teaching and Assessment Policy

At Alex Park Democratic School, we strongly believe that excessive testing and measurement does not help children. We believe that children need to have the freedom to learn without the constraints of continuous, compulsory assessment. This core belief affects our Teaching and Assessment Policy.

Teachers at Alex Park Democratic School work in different ways:

- They offer formal lessons with a tight focus within a structured curriculum.
- They work as informal guides in the development of children's freely-chosen projects.
- They create learning environments by preparing resources and materials that children use, without necessarily being involved in their use.
- They are equal members of the Alexandra Park community with the children and share their views in the meetings.

These different roles affect teachers' activity and the way that they assess their own and the children's work.

It is our policy:

- To use a Tracking system for the Core Curriculum of Maths, English and Science.
- To use the Tracking system to give children good and accurate information about their level and to provide learning opportunities and resources appropriate to that level.
- To always share assessment with the children and to give them the power to decide whether to share their results with their parents.
- To use the online learning platform as a way of sharing learning with parents.
- To encourage children to reflect upon their own learning by using the Cycle of Inquiry.
- To emphasise project-learning that reinforces children's desire to find out, discuss and summarise their own work to their peers.
- To maintain the interests of the child in the forefront when talking to parents, at regular parents' evenings.
- To support each child at their own level in the Core curriculum, whether it is in classes or project-work; to show children that it is useful to know what their level is.
- To keep records of children's work so that we can provide an accurate idea of their level against national standards when they leave the school

We do not have prizes or awards. We do not publish leagues of performance. We do not punish or reward performance in tests. Our philosophy is that assessment- and particularly self-assessment- is a valuable tool that children can learn to use. But we do not want them to become obsessed with marks and grades.

Date - May 2018

Signed Headteacher –

Review – May 2019

Signed Director –