



# The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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**Grove Road**  
**St Albans**  
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**AL1 1DQ**

3<sup>rd</sup> February 2017

Dear Parents

## Assessment Information

At the end of each term (December, March, July) in Years 1-6 (including in the summer annual report to parents), the teachers will assess the children's level of attainment using the phrases:

- **Securely within ARE** (Age Related Expectation)
- **Working broadly within ARE**
- **Working below ARE**
- **Working above ARE**

The examples of ARE in 'I can statements' that were sent home to parents last term are designed to help parents understand expectations. These documents are not designed for children.

Year 1-6 teachers assess and monitor throughout the year to ensure that as many children as possible are on track to be 'securely within ARE' in all three core areas of Reading, Writing and Maths by the end of the summer term. For Year 6 children we have a target of 85% of children to be 'securely within' in all three core subjects by the end of the summer term.

The assessment points are at the end of each term. The October and February Parents Evening report sheets given to parents at the consultation are an early indication for parents as to where we currently assess your child. As the year progresses the children will cover more of the curriculum and the terminology used in assessing them will also move to be in line with where they are working.

For some parents this is your first experience of Parents Evening, or your first experience of your child being assessed against the National Curriculum in Years 1-6. For all parents this is the first academic year that the teacher has presented you with a copy of their notes which they have always read from. This document was shared with parents for the first time in October 2016, rather than verbally.

Parents have not seen an early half term initial assessment grade before and this will not always reflect the end of the previous year's annual report assessment as they are not comparable. At October and February, the children have not completed a whole academic year and do not have the full coverage of the curriculum.

**These meetings are for parents only. There will be no supervision for school age or pre-school children on site.** Appointments will run strictly on time to allow parents to organise childcare arrangements off-site, potentially with other parents. We politely ask that children do not come into the hall as seven appointments will run simultaneously and children may affect the quality of the discussions taking place. Parents will more than one class teacher will not be able to specify which teacher they see. All the job share teachers will read from jointly written notes.

Year 2 appointments will be held on both nights by both Mrs Easby and Mrs Gaines jointly. Year 6 appointments will be run by Mrs Brooks on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February and by Mrs Berrington and Mr Silver on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February from shared notes so it does not matter which teacher you meet with.





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If you are unable to attend the set evenings, a 10 minute consultation to meet with the class teacher can be arranged via the School Office after February half term. Please note, this appointment will be 10 minutes still. If your child has more than one teacher, only one teacher will be available for this late consultation appointment and you may not be able to specify which teacher you meet with so that the teachers can share the amount of consultations they hold.

## How the evening will run

The evenings will take the same format as previous years. Teachers' time keeping will be precise to assist parents with out of school child care arrangements. We ask that all parents enter and exit via the main entrance of school where the Grove Road pedestrian gate will be open.

A reminder that there will be no Infant Art Club on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February as the last one was on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January. After school Key Stage 2 Football Future Club on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February will take place outside and children will get changed in Year 5 and are to be collected from the external door by Year 5 near the pond.

After school Dance and Cheer club on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February will take place in the Year 6 classroom, although children will have to be collected from the external door by Year 5 and there will be no entrance via the hall.

Lindees After School club will run both Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February and Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February in the IT suite and children attending this after school club will be collected from the external door by Year 5 also.

The consultation meetings will take place for all classes in the hall with the children's books available to browse in the KS1 classrooms:

<b>Reception classroom:</b>	Year 1 and Year 2
<b>Year 1 classroom:</b>	Year 3 and Year 4
<b>Year 2 classroom:</b>	Year 5 and Year 6

We politely ask that all the children's books/trays are left in the classroom. Please ensure that you are waiting in the Library in advance of your appointment time by a few minutes. From here the Headteacher will collect you to allow all appointments to start not only promptly, but collectively in the hall to eliminate disruption. To keep to time, a bell will be rung to indicate the last minute of appointment time. (If at this point you feel further time is needed, please contact the School Office who will be happy to assist you in making an additional appointment straight after school in the following half term.) The next set of parents will then be escorted into the hall ready to start their meeting on time.

## Thinking Day - Wednesday 22 February 2017

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> February every year Girlguiding and Girl Scouts across the globe celebrate Thinking Day. This is when we give our thoughts to girls across the world involved in Girlguiding, as this is the birthday of Lord Robert Baden-Powell founder of the movement and Lady Olave Baden-Powell the first Chief Guide. As part of this very special day we would like to ask Rainbows, Brownies and Guides (and any leaders) to wear their uniforms into school this one day – Wednesday 22 February 2017.

## Second hand uniform

Did you know that you can purchase second hand uniform throughout the school term? Simply collect a form from the School Office, complete it and post it in the Friends' Post Box in school, opposite the Office window. You will be contacted when your order is ready for collection. There will also be an opportunity to buy uniform at the Cake Sale on 17<sup>th</sup> March but why not order an extra fleece or jumper now to see your child through the winter? Alison Moore (parent of Peter Yr6 and Lydia Yr1)

Kind regards

Miss Emma Fenn  
Headteacher