

## Achieving 'order' in a system that can seem muddled!

Assessing pupils can seem a tricky balance to manage. Progress is becoming more and more necessary to prove and the absence of national levels may seem as if the structure for assessment has been taken away. However through embedding Formative Assessment practices and becoming more reflective as a practitioner, assessment in the muddled world of education is exciting!

### Top Tips!

1. Keep your end of session outcome at the forefront of your mind. *This will help you assess how close pupils are at meeting that and ensure you remain focused on planned learning outcomes.*
2. Use children's prior knowledge. *This tip will provide opportunities to assess what children understand and what they need to learn about next to develop their understanding.*
3. Ensure your teaching adapts to the needs of your pupils during the learning. *Don't wait until the next session as this will be a missed opportunity to narrow the gap or accelerate progress in pupil understanding and learning.*
4. Ensure your learning environment has reflective assessment tips for pupils. *If pupils have prompts and scaffolds to support their self assessment more of a focus on learning and progress rather than results is placed.*
5. Focus on learning. Use self assessment to achieve this. *If children own their learning and interact with it they will strive to succeed.*
6. Set high and clear expectations. *Children like to feel safe and have a clear understanding of what is needed. These are key for setting a positive tone of your classroom.*
7. Mini-plenaries (assessment pit stops) to check where pupils are in their understanding. *This develops pupils' ownership of learning and also gives you time to assess their understanding.*
8. Set realistic targets for pupils, with pupils. *Effective target setting involves pupils having a voice in setting targets. These are then referred to in marking, feedback and Teaching.*
9. Make effective feedback regular practice. *This works! It helps reinforce independent learning and helps children take more ownership of their learning. Pupils should also respond to feedback to signal they have taken on board comments and as such, their understanding has improved.*
10. Key questioning! *Planning key questions will help pre-empt misconceptions and help you plan questions to help you understand what pupils know.*

Remember to...

Be passionate about what you're teaching. If you love it it's likely your children will too.

# Top Tips for effective Assessment

These tips should help you avoid confusion!



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