

To: Headteachers of Primary and Special  
Schools (Primary), Short Stay Schools  
(Primary), and Support Services

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Your ref:  
Our ref: LSIS/MT/PB/EW/CM/JB  
Date: 10 September 2025

Dear Colleague,

Welcome back to the Autumn term, I hope that you had a good summer break and managed time to rest and recharge your batteries. Hopefully, term has started well, and children and staff are enjoying their return to school. I am writing with some brief updates regarding statutory assessment.

**Key Stage 2 Data Checking Exercise**

The 2025 KS2 September checking exercise website opened on **8 September 2025 until 5pm on 19 September 2025**. Schools should check the data is accurate and consider any possible withdrawals that meet DfE criteria.

The website can be accessed here: [Check Your Performance Measures Data \(education.gov.uk\)](https://checkyourperformance.measuresdata.education.gov.uk) You will need a DfE sign in to access this portal.

For all applications there is a list of evidence that is required and the guidance states that if all of this is not provided then the application will not be considered. The full guidance is available within your secure login on the above website.

The criteria that are acceptable to apply for removal of a child's data from the schools' results are broadly the same as last year.

Firstly, if a child has been admitted from abroad with English not as a first language. The criteria required:

- English is not their first language; and
  - English is not an official language of their country of origin; and
  - their **first** admission to a school in England was **on, or after, 1 September 2022**.
- The guidance also states that removal requests may be considered if the child has been educated in more than one English school.

Other categories which may be applicable include:

- child missing in education,
- child joined the school after or after the first day of the summer term
- social care involvement.

**Lancashire County Council**  
PO Box 100, County Hall, Preston, PR1 0LD



These categories all have specific guidance which must be adhered to for the application to be successful.

Please do take time to read the guidance as it is substantial and may affect your cohort results from 2024/2025.

### **STA updates**

STA release regular email updates regarding statutory assessments throughout the school year. These are usually sent fortnightly and will support you in identifying key dates and actions that are needed.

If you have not already signed up to receive these updates, then I would encourage you to do so. This can be done here: [Get Emails from GOV.UK](#)

### **Statutory Assessment in 2025/2026**

The following statutory Primary Assessments will go ahead in 2025/26:

This includes the:

- End of KS2 assessments (including tests and teacher assessment)
- Reception Baseline Assessment
- Phonics Screening Check
- Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check
- Completion of EYFS Profile
- Statutory Trialling

**KS1 assessments remain optional.** This includes teacher assessment in reading, writing and maths and KS1 tests in reading, writing and maths. There is no statutory requirement for schools to report data to the local authority or DfE. Schools also do not need to report results to parents.

STA will continue to develop and supply materials for reading, writing, maths and grammar, punctuation and spelling if schools wish to use these for their own internal purposes. Further details can be found here: [Standards and Testing Agency - GOV.UK](#)

### **Reception Baseline Assessment**

The Reception Baseline Assessment must be completed in the first six weeks of term, but this is now accessed via [DfE Sign-in](#). The assessment is now carried out by children interacting with a touchscreen device as well as verbally with the teacher. There are a range of videos and supporting guidance to support with administering the baseline on the new service that can be accessed here. [Reception baseline assessment- GOV.UK](#)

The Deadline for the completion of the Headteacher Declaration Form is Friday 7 November 2025.

The Assessment and Reporting Arrangements (ARA) for the Baseline can be found here: [2025 reception baseline assessment: assessment and reporting arrangements - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)



### **Updated statutory guidance documents (ARA)**

The Standards and Testing Agency will be updating the Assessment and Reporting Arrangements (ARA) documents for EYFS, Phonics and KS2 for 2025/2026. These are expected to become available in October. They will be posted online at The Standards and Testing Agency and tweeted via [@lancsassessment](#). There are considerable statutory requirements for Headteachers regarding assessment. Once the ARA documents are released the Assessment Calendar that we produce will be sent to you with all key dates on.

Later in the academic year, I will run some free short webinars for Headteachers to talk you through these requirements. Details of these and how to access them will be communicated in due course.

### **Primary Accountability 2024/25**

The Department for Education will update the Primary Accountability document, with information around the use of data from 2024/25. We are expecting this to happen in early autumn. Last year's document can be found here: [Primary Accountability](#)

### **Key stage 2 attainment headlines (provisional): 2024**

On 8 July the Department for Education released the KS2, 2024 provisional headlines for data. This document can be accessed here: [Key stage 2 attainment: National headlines, Academic year 2024/25 - Explore education statistics - GOV.UK](#)

### **Lancashire School Information Profile (LSIP)**

For schools who buy into the School Improvement Service Guarantee (SISG) or have chosen to sign up for the Lancashire School Information Profile (LSIP) I am pleased to be able to say that work on these has progressed well over the summer holiday. The Pupil Characteristics section of the LSIP was uploaded to Lancashire ROSE in August and is available for you to view. This will be followed by the attainment section soon. (This is considerably earlier than in previous years). Further information will be sent on their release and will all be available to you in your secure Lancashire Rose area. (<https://rose.lancashire.gov.uk/>)

Any Schools that do not buy into the School Improvement Service Guarantee and missed the opportunity to request an LSIP but wish to, please complete the following Micros form to sign up:

[Please complete the MS Form to sign up to the LSIP](#)

### **Tracking**

The Lancashire Tracker continues to be reviewed and updated regularly and training sessions run online throughout the school year. If any schools are interested in using the Tracker or have any queries, please email [Philip.Gittins@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:Philip.Gittins@lancashire.gov.uk)

### **Courses and CPD 2025/26**

We are pleased to offer a full programme for Assessment Courses and CPD for 2025/26. As with each year, these have been evaluated and changes made to ensure that we are able to cover the requirements of Primary Schools. In most cases, courses have both venue and online options. As a team we are very happy to work with you to meet your needs for Assessment Training whilst being aware of the pressure on School



budgets. As such, we can provide any training for individual Schools or for clusters of Schools, if that is beneficial.

Some key assessment courses to take note of:

[Interrogating and Understanding the Lancashire School Information Profile \(The LSIP\) and The Closing The Gap Reports.](#)

This detailed course is ideal for School Leaders who wish to analyse their data early and feed the outcomes into their School Improvement Work

[Year 2 teachers - effective assessment strategies to support end of Key Stage 1 assessments](#)

Focussing on strategies to support effective writing including accurate use of grammar skills to achieve EXS.

[Year 6 - Understanding the Statutory Assessment Procedures - Effective Preparation for SATs](#)

Focussing on developing effective strategies to support children aiming high with their writing and how to structure narrative writing to support children working at EXS standard.

[Understanding Primary School Data \(A guide to the 2024/2025 data, The IDSR, ASP, LSIP\)](#)

This detailed course will provide an overview and reminder of the data including how to analyse and interpret it, identifying strengths and areas for development

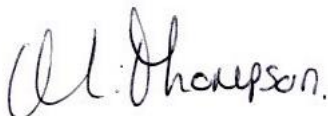
More will be added if there is demand. All Assessment courses can be accessed here: [Assessment Courses](#)

Many of you may have attended one or more of the 'Great Teaching' Courses. This programme has been widened further and has a dedicated area on the website where they can be viewed This includes some fantastic packages of sustained CPD that can be accessed across the year: [Great Teaching](#)

All the courses can be adapted to individual schools or delivered to clusters/MATS etc. Please email [mike.thompson@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:mike.thompson@lancashire.gov.uk) for further information.

I wish you all the best for the new academic year,

Yours sincerely



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