**HALLAM DIOCESE SCHOOLS’ DEPARTMENT**

**RE OBJECTIVES: ASSESSMENT WITHOUT LEVELS**

*(Excel Spreadsheet)*

Introduction

Religious Education Assessment in Catholic Schools is moving from assessing by ‘Levels of Attainment’ to ‘age-related expectations’ as published in the ‘Interim Standards for Religious Education’, approved by the Bishops’ Conference.

The original ‘Interim Standards’ document set expectations at ‘End of Phase’ – namely Foundation Stage 2, and Years 2, 4, 6, 9, 11 and 13. In Hallam Diocese, we have adopted a revised version of these standards that sets expectations for each year group, thanks to the work developed by Arundel & Brighton Diocese.

The RE OBJECTIVES: ASSESSMENT WITHOUT LEVELS spreadsheet is a tool devised to help schools record the attainment and progress of pupils against the end-of-year expectations in the Interim Standards, and is being implemented by most schools in the 2018/19 school year.

Hallam Diocese Schools’ Department is grateful for the advice and help given by Sarah Feist of Arundel & Brighton Diocese, and John Fernandes, St Marie’s School, Sheffield, creator of the spreadsheet.

Rationale

It is best to think of the spreadsheet as a digital ‘markbook’ that can be updated whenever appropriate, but which also enables teachers to make professional judgements (by teacher assessment) at key points in the year. Teachers can record assessments against each individual statement in the Interim Standards, but can also make an overall judgement as to whether a pupil is on-track or at the expected end-of-year standard.

Getting Started

* In **Cell** **C10,** fill in the number of pupils in the class.

*This is important in order to ensure percentage figures generated by formulae in the spreadsheet are accurate.*

* In **Rows 2 & 3**, fill in the names of pupils in the class.
* Having taught a topic/skill/objective, and having made some assessment of a pupil’s understanding/development, record a score between 0 and 4 in the appropriate row next to a statement. As stated on the spreadsheet;

0 = Taught, not yet understood

1 = Some evidence, not yet secure

2 = Objective secured

3 = Working at greater depth

*These scores can be updated at any time. If the topic/objective has not been taught or assessed, leave the cell blank.*

* Once assessments are recorded on the marksheet, percentages will be generated by formulae.
* The colours and scores in **Column C** will indicate to the teacher to what level each objective is being secured by the class as a whole.
* **Row 8** will show the ‘average depth’ of understanding, across the expectations, for each child, expressed between 0 and 3, as per the code above. This will also be expressed as a percentage in **Row 9.**
* The spreadsheet is designed to have a summative judgement made **at the end of each term**, as to whether a pupil is **below, on track, or above** where he or she is expected to be at that stage of the year. Teachers should use the drop-down box in **Row 4 (Autumn), 5 (Spring) or 6 (Summer)** to record one of the three judgements, according to their own professional judgement.

*Additional advice:*

*In the Autumn and Spring terms, where a teacher believes (in their professional judgement) that a pupil will achieve the overall expected standard by the end of the year, he or she should record that pupil as ‘on track’. Likewise, if the teacher believes it is unlikely, given the present evidence, he or she should record ‘below’. Again, if a pupil is already showing strong indication of greater depth of understanding, he or she should record ‘above’.*

*NB: On very old versions of Excel, these drop down boxes do not appear!!*

*At the end of the Summer term, teachers are recording whether a pupil has met the age-related expectation, or not, or has consistently shown understanding of greater depth, even though the spreadsheet still records ‘below’, ‘on track’ or ‘above’.*

* Each term, once assessments have been filled in for each child, a summative record will appear in the table at the bottom of the worksheet. This table can then be used for monitoring achievement across the school.
* **Every time** a teacher updates information on the spreadsheet, he or she should remember to SAVE their updated work, before closing the spreadsheet.

Skills guide and glossary

Please note that these guides are included within the spreadsheet for teachers’ information.

Achievement at the end of year: Diocesan Consistency

In order to have some consistency of data reliability across the diocese, please follow these rules for the end of year assessment of achievement:

* To have met the End-of-Year expectations, a pupil should be ‘secure’ in **80% or more** of statements pertaining to their year group.
* To be considered as having a deeper understanding, a pupil should be ‘secure’ in all statements, and be working at greater depth in **50% or more** of statements.

Management of copies of the spreadsheet

Schools are advised to keep a Master copy of any spreadsheet, periodically updated and saved.

Developing best practice suggests that one spreadsheet could be used for each cohort of pupils, so that it can travel with them from teacher to teacher as they move through the school.

*For schools outside Hallam Diocese, we would be grateful for acknowledgement of the authorship of the spreadsheet.*

*Alan Dewhurst March 2019*