



Parent Information

SCOTTISH NATIONAL STANDARDISED ASSESSMENT (SNSA)

What do we do currently?

- Assessment is an important part of everyday learning and teaching. Teachers gather evidence from a range of sources on an ongoing basis and use this evidence to make judgments on the progress children are making.
- Teachers will make judgements about a child's progress based on the Scottish Benchmarks – these provide a clear framework of expectations for what children should be able to do at the end of P1 (early Level), P4 (first level) and P7 (second level)

What is SNSA?

- From session 2017/18 the Scottish Government is introducing a new system of standardised assessments, called the Scottish National Standardised Assessments (SNSA). The new assessments will be undertaken in every school in Scotland.
- These will involve all children at the P1, P4, P7 and S3 stages of their education, focusing on aspects of reading, writing and numeracy.
- The Scottish Government will collate all of the assessment data from these assessments to understand nationally where improvement is needed.

What will SNSA involve in RDM?

- All children in P1, P4 and P7 will undertake national assessments in February / March this year.
- Pupils in P1 will take 2 assessments (one in literacy and one in numeracy) and pupils in P4, P7 will take three assessments (in reading, writing and numeracy).
- The assessments are completed online, either on a desktop computer or by using an iPad. They will be automatically marked by the online system, providing teachers with immediate feedback.
- The assessments do not have any pass/fail mark, as results are used to help teachers plan the next steps in learning for each child in order to help them make the best possible progress.
- **Children do not have to revise or prepare for the assessments.** They are designed to be used as part of normal teaching and learning and the information that they provide will be used in the same way as other assessment information which arises from day to day teaching and learning activities.
- The assessments are designed to be inclusive and accommodate the needs of those who require additional support. Children who require additional support will be able to receive the support they normally receive in the classroom when completing the assessments.
- The assessments provide data which is used alongside the wide range of evidence that teachers already have.
- SNSA is an *adaptive* system, which means that all pupils are challenged and receive an assessment suited to their ability. It is designed so that if a child is struggling with the initial questions being asked, it will make subsequent ones easier. Similarly, if the child copes well with the initial questions, it will make subsequent questions more challenging.
- The assessments do not have a time limit attached to them, however, the majority of children will complete an assessment in no more than 45 minutes.

Where can I find out further information about SNSA?

- The Scottish Government have created a dedicated website at <https://standardisedassessment.gov.scot/parents-and-carers/>