



Changes to the New National Curriculum 2014

In 2014 the way in which we teach and assess all subjects has been changed. Below are some of the changes in core subjects:

English:

- Stronger emphasis on vocabulary development, grammar, punctuation and spelling (for example, the use of commas and apostrophes will be taught in KS1)
- Handwriting – not currently assessed under the national curriculum – is expected to be fluent, legible and speedy
- Spoken English has a greater emphasis, with children to be taught debating and presenting skills

Maths:

- Year 1 children will be expected to learn to count up to 100 (compared to 20 under the current curriculum) and learn number bonds to 20 (currently up to 10)
- Simple fractions ($\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$) will be taught from KS1, and by the end of primary school, children should be able to convert decimal fractions to simple fractions (e.g. $0.375 = \frac{3}{8}$)
- By the age of nine, children will be expected to know times tables up to 12×12 (currently 10×10 by the end of primary school)
- Calculators will not be introduced until near the end of KS2, to encourage mental arithmetic.

Science:

- Strong focus on scientific knowledge and language, rather than understanding the nature and methods of science in abstract terms
- Evolution will be taught in primary schools for the first time
- Non-core subjects like caring for animals will be replaced by topics like the human circulatory system

Computing:

- Computing replaces Information and Communication Technology (ICT), with a greater focus on programming rather than on operating programs
- From age five, children will learn to write and test simple programs, and to organise, store and retrieve data
- From seven, they will be taught to understand computer networks, including the internet
- Internet safety – currently only taught from 11-16 – will be taught in primary schools

The new curriculum has much higher end of year expectations than those previously. In order to prepare pupils for the more ambitious end of year expectations in English, Mathematics and Science, teachers at Canon Burrows are amending their teaching and learning as appropriate, and in line with guidance from the Department of Education. Inevitably there are currently gaps in learning for each year group; which teachers are addressing before they can teach the much higher level of work expected. Until these gaps have been plugged some children will be working below Age Related Expectations.

Assessment:

We no longer use levels and now assess the children as working at, above or below Age Related Expectations (End of Year Expectations as published by DfE).

We hope that you find this information useful. If you have any further questions there will be an opportunity to discuss your child's progress in relation to the New National Curriculum at this term's parent's evening.