



Maltby
Lilly Hall Academy

10th September 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

As we continue to extend a warm welcome to our new families and children to our reception unit, we write to inform you of a new assessment your child will be undertaking this term.

Your child will be participating in the Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA) within the first 6 weeks of starting reception. The purpose of the assessment is to provide the starting point for a new measure that will help parents understand how well schools support their pupils to progress between Reception and Year 6 / the end of Key Stage 2.

What is the Reception Baseline Assessment?

The RBA is a short, interactive and practical assessment of your child's early literacy, communication, language and mathematics skills when they begin school, using materials that most children of your child's age will be familiar with. ***It is statutory for all schools to carry out this assessment from September 2021.***

What does participating in the RBA mean for my child?

The RBA is not about judging or labelling your child or putting them under any pressure. Your child cannot 'pass' or 'fail' the assessment. Its main purpose is to create a starting point to measure the progress schools make with their pupils.

How will the RBA benefit my child?

The RBA will provide an opportunity for your child to have valuable one-to-one time with their teacher at an early stage, so the teacher can get to know your child better. It will provide a helpful snapshot of where your child is when they enter reception, so they can be supported in the most appropriate way.

How will the RBA benefit me as a parent?

When your child reaches Year 6 / the end of Key Stage 2, you will be able to see how well your child's school has supported the year group in their time at primary school, compared to other schools nationally. This will improve on the current progress measure, which only measures progress between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, missing out the crucial work schools do between Reception and Year 2 / the end of Key Stage 1.





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How do I prepare my child for the assessment?

Your child will answer questions verbally or by pointing at or moving objects. The assessment has been designed to ensure that it is inclusive and accessible to as many children as possible, including those with special educational needs or disability (SEND) or English as an additional language (EAL). The teacher can pause the assessment at any time if your child needs a break. There are also modified materials available for children with visual and hearing impairment.

How will the data be used?

The data from the assessment will only be used by the Department for Education when your child has reached the end of Year 6, to provide the baseline to measure the progress of your child's year group from reception to year 6. The data from the assessment, including numerical scores, is not shared with you, pupils, teachers, or external bodies, including schools, and there will be no published scores at pupil, school or national level.

Will I receive feedback on my child's assessment?

Your child's teacher will receive a set of statements which provide a narrative description of how your child performed in the assessment. This will be shared with you at Parents Evening during the Autumn Term.

For more information

For more details on the RBA you can visit the government's standards and testing agency website here www.gov.uk/STA.

Finally, we include a link to a short, informative video which explains how the RBA will look for your child in school here

www.youtube.com/watch?v=qlJFI8NJwe8

It goes without saying, we are more than happy to answer any questions you may have about the reception baseline assessment and provide any further information you may need.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Gibson & Miss Brown
Reception Teachers

