Nether Stowe School

Be Respectful. Be Ambitious. Be Resilient.

Assessment guidance 2025-2026

At Nether Stowe School, assessment is a vital part of learning. It helps us understand how well students are progressing, what they've learned, and where they may need extra support. Our goal is to ensure every child reads more, writes more, knows more, and thinks more.

Arthur Terry Learning Partnership

Types of Assessment

We use two main types of assessments:

1. 1. Progress Checks

- Short, informal quizzes or tasks (5–20 minutes).
- Help teachers spot gaps in recent learning.
- Not graded and do not affect report grades.
- Used to guide future teaching.

2. 2. Milestone Assessments

- Longer, formal assessments (45–60 minutes).
- Take place during scheduled Assessment Weeks.
- Graded and contribute to your child's Working at Grade.
- Feedback is given individually and/or to the whole class.

Assessment Weeks

We hold three Assessment Weeks each year. During these weeks:
- Students complete milestone assessments under exam-style conditions.
- Lessons are paused to focus on revision and assessment.
- This helps students build confidence and independence for future exams.

How Is Progress Measured?

Key Stage 3 (Years 7–9):

We use four simple terms to describe progress:
- Mastering – Above age expectations
- Established – Meeting age expectations
- Developing – Working towards age expectations
- Emerging – Below age expectations

Key Stage 4 (Years 10–11):

Students are assessed using GCSE-style mark schemes and grading systems.
This gives a clear picture of how they're performing and what they might achieve in their final exams.

What Will You See as a Parent?

After each Assessment Week, you'll receive a report via the My Child At School App. This includes:

- Your child's Working at Grade
- Attitude to Learning score
- Reading Age
- Attendance

How Do We Ensure Quality?

We take assessment seriously. All assessments are checked and moderated by subject leaders and senior staff to ensure fairness and accuracy.

Questions or Concerns?

If you have any questions about your child's progress or assessments, please contact their subject teacher or Head of Year. We're here to support every student's journey.