

Coastal Together



20 September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Reception baseline assessments.

Our new Reception children have settled into the routines of school 'like ducks to water' and have been busy learning new things. Over the next three weeks our school will take part in the national baseline assessment. The new baseline assessment provides a snapshot of where a child is by establishing their starting point.

The assessment itself will be short (approximately 20 minutes), interactive and practical, covering language and communication, early mathematics and self-regulation. It will use age-appropriate resources that children can handle and manipulate. It will reflect familiar foundation-stage practice and encourage positive interaction between the teacher/teaching assistant and the pupil - as happens on a daily basis. There is no need to prepare for the assessment and children won't be aware they are being assessed - it will seem like normal play/learning.

Children will not 'pass' or 'fail' the assessment; it will provide a snapshot of where they are when they start school in the reception year. In 7 years time when the reception aged children reach year 6 they will complete SATs tests and the progress made by children between the Reception baseline and Year 6 SATs will be measured.

You can find further information about the baseline on the Department for Education's newly released [parent information leaflet](#)

We will continue to keep you updated on the development of the baseline as it continues.

Regards

Abigail Carter
Head of Schools MIJS