

Email message from Liz Depper, President to members of Executive 12 June 2021

STA response to question re statutory assessment in 2021 - 2022

Dear All,

A SE member asked the following question - is there any info yet about next year's statutory assessment timetable - is everything back to normal?

I forwarded this to David Malcolm who replied immediately (as he always does):

We have as you may know confirmed the Reception Baseline Assessment is going ahead in September but as yet we have not confirmed the wider programme of assessments next year. Advice is with Ministers and they are considering this alongside related advice around accountability measures. We're hoping to say more soon but discussions are ongoing as you can imagine.

When we cancelled the assessments due to be held in the present term of this academic year were cancelled back in January, we said then that we planned for a full programme of assessments to return in 2021/22, including the statutory introduction of the Multiplication Tables Check and would confirm this approach in due course. That remains the position, so I'd say it's prudent for schools to plan on this basis in the meantime. We're very aware that schools will want as much notice as possible whatever the situation is, and we very much want to be able to confirm before the summer holidays. I'll let you know as soon as we have any developments.

As with my previous message, please can regional reps. forward this information to members. It may go some way to offsetting the uncertainties that bedevil a number of members and their colleagues.

I would add that David's final word was: *As always if anything else crops up please don't hesitate to get in touch.*

I cannot fault his instant and genuinely helpful responses.

Many thanks,

Liz