

**Director of Curriculum, Assessment, Teacher
Education and Professional Learning**

RAYMOND CALDWELL



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Dear Principal

STATUTORY ASSESSMENT AND PUPIL REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS 2023-24

I am writing to provide clarification on statutory Key Stage Assessment for the 2023-24 academic year.

The Department will continue to dis-apply the requirements for schools to carry out Key Stage Assessment during the 2023-24 academic year. This reflects the arrangements of the previous years and is primarily designed to reduce the workload of schools and teachers, to ensure that the focus of schools remains the teaching of pupils in the classroom.

The Department remains committed to commencing a review and making policy recommendations regarding the purpose, nature, and design of Key Stage Assessment in Northern Ireland. The review would seek to benchmark against best international practice, making use of a practitioner working group, to undertake strategic assessment of the current arrangements and produce proposals and recommendations to support the development of 'fit for purpose' arrangements for Key Stage Assessment.

The other requirements of the Education (Pupil Reporting) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2000 in respect of the writing of pupil reports will continue to apply to all schools.

I hope this provides clarity on these issues and I wish to thank you for your ongoing commitment to supporting our children and young people.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. Caldwell". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned below the closing "Yours faithfully".

RAYMOND CALDWELL
Director of Curriculum, Assessment, Teacher Education
and Professional Learning