

Academic Year 2024-2025



# Primary Assessment Groveside Stepping Stones Handbook

The overall aim of the curriculum is to enable all the young people at Groveside School to become

**Responsible Learners, Resilient  
Individuals and Respectful Citizens.**

## **RESPONSIBLE LEARNERS**

Always doing your best

## **RESILIENT INDIVIDUALS**

Developing social skills, understanding and resilience

## **RESPECTFUL CITIZENS**

Creating and maintaining positive relationships and following community expectations



# Academic Year 2024-2025

## Introduction

Primary assessment at Groveside School is seen as a vital component in support of high-quality teaching and learning. Assessment strategies need to cover a broad spectrum from EYFS through to the end of Key Stage 2. We assess pupils' knowledge and skills using a programme called SOLAR to track pupil progress, set targets, generate reports.

SOLAR allows us to record all our assessment in one place and has the flexibility for us to shape our assessment system to align more closely with our teaching. It also enables us to include our target setting and undertake data analysis.

At Key Stage 2 there is a heavier focus on the acquisition of knowledge building blocks, which feeds into our secondary assessment model – Groveside Progress Steps, once pupils enter Year 7.

## Assessment Model

We assess each pupil's knowledge and skills development through the delivery of a purposeful curriculum in each subject.

"**Groveside Stepping Stones**" uses a continuation, on one scale, that runs from Groveside Stepping Stone GSS1 through to GSS7 and measures the progress of our pupils from EYFS to the end of Year 6.

Pupils are reassessed again as they enter year 7 and begin their journey along our secondary "**Groveside Progress Steps**" pathway.

## Pupil Baselines

Pupils will be baselined in the first term of entry to the school in each subject they study. For any new subjects they will be baselined in the first term they begin learning the subject. Pupils will receive a **Groveside Stepping Stones (GSS)** and a percentage indicating the completion of the next step.



## Groveside Stepping Stones



Groveside Stepping Stones Flight Path Projections							
	GSS1	GSS2	GSS3	GSS4	GSS5	GSS6	GSS7
	<b>Yr3 BL</b>		<b>Yr 6 Final</b>				
		<b>Yr 3 BL</b>			<b>Yr 6 Final</b>		
			<b>Yr 3 BL</b>			<b>Yr 6 Final</b>	
				<b>Yr 3 BL</b>			<b>Yr 6 Final</b>

KS2 Baseline within GSS Bracket	Step increase per year	Step target end of Key Stage 2
GSS 1	0.6	GSS 3
GSS 2	0.8	GSS 5
GSS 3	1.0	GSS 6
GSS 4	1.0	GSS 7

Diagram 1 – Groveside Stepping Stones

Diagram 1 shows the rate of progress for a pupil baselined within each **Groveside Stepping Stones** bracket. For example, a pupil baselined at GSS 3 in year 3 will be set a target to make 1.0 of a step each year. This means if a pupil achieves a GSS 3 + 25% baseline in maths they will have an end of Key Stage 2 target of GSS 6 + 25%.

\*\*\* Targets and flight paths will be reviewed at the end of each academic year to ensure that the pupils targets reflect an accurate outcome for the pupil. Pupils can make different rates of progress across subjects and at different stages of each key stage and the progress model will take this into consideration. Pupils will not be capped by the model but this will guide teachers to best assess pupils' likely outcomes in discussion with SLT.  
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### Subject Criteria

Each subject's assessment criteria are categorised into 2 strands, knowledge and skills. Pupils may have spiky profiles within a subject and make different rates of progress across the strands. SOLAR will combine the overall progress of the strands to give an overall GSS and percentage score. We use this when we first baseline the pupils to set an initial projection flight path for each individual pupil at the school. The report will not give a breakdown of each individual strand, but teachers can discuss this with parents during parents' evenings.

# Academic Year 2024-2025

## Assessing Pupil Progress

The criteria for each strand increase in difficulty as the pupils move up from GSS1 – GSS7. Pupils will be assessed against the criteria each term. Each set of criteria will have 4 stars.

- *1 Star - Fully Supported*
- *2 Star - Partially Supported*
- *3 Star - Independence*
- *4 Star - Wow (Transferrable Skills / Application)*

Our 4-star system of Fully Supported, Supported, Independence and Wow enables us to ensure mastery and depth at each step. Pupils move up a step once they have achieved 80% of the current stepping stone. This enables pupils to make progress while identifying that some areas may require revisiting at a later stage.

*\*\*\*\*Note this is a slightly different approach to our secondary **Groveside Progress Steps** progression criteria, which can be found in the secondary SOLAR handbook\*\*\*\**