

SCHOOL SELF-EVALUATION GUIDELINES 2016-2020 Primary



Table 1: Quality Framework for Primary Schools – Overview

	DOMAINS	STANDARDS	
TEACHING AND LEARNING	Learner outcomes	Pupils: enjoy their learning, are motivated to learn, and expect to achieve as learners have the necessary knowledge and skills to understand themselves and their relationships demonstrate the knowledge, skills and understanding required by the primary curriculum achieve the stated learning objectives for the term and year	Supported by
	Learner experiences	Pupils: engage purposefully in meaningful learning activities grow as learners through respectful interactions and experiences that are challenging and supportive reflect on their progress as learners and develop a sense of ownership of and responsibility for their learning experience opportunities to develop the skills and attitudes necessary for lifelong learning	Supported by
	Teachers' individual practice	The teacher: has the requisite subject knowledge, pedagogical knowledge and classroom management skills selects and uses planning, preparation and assessment practices that progress pupils' learning selects and uses teaching approaches appropriate to the learning objectives and to pupils' learning needs responds to individual learning needs and differentiates teaching and learning activities as necessary	Supported by
	Teachers' collective / collaborative practice	Teachers: value and engage in professional development and professional collaboration work together to devise learning opportunities for pupils across and beyond the curriculum collectively develop and implement consistent and dependable formative and summative assessment practices contribute to building whole-staff capacity by sharing their expertise	

For example, a school may decide to focus on the area of differentiation within the domain of teachers' individual practice. The relevant statements of effective practice and highly effective practice are:

STANDARD	STATEMENTS OF EFFECTIVE PRACTICE	STATEMENTS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE PRACTICE
The teacher selects and uses	Teachers meaningfully	Teachers meaningfully
teaching approaches appropriate	differentiate content and activities	differentiate content and activities
to the learning objective and to	in order to cater for the varying	in order to ensure that all pupils
pupils' learning needs.	needs and abilities of pupils.	are challenged by the learning
		activities and experience success
		as learners.



Once the process of gathering and considering evidence is completed, the statement of effective practice should be used by the school to identify aspects of their practice that correspond to it. The school will also identify some aspects of practice that are more closely aligned to the highly effective practice and, perhaps, aspects where practice is less than effective. Both the statement of effective practice and the statement of highly effective practice will also help identify specific areas that teachers should focus on in order to bring about and sustain improvements. These may include *meaningful differentiation* or ensuring that *all learners experience success and challenges* in their learning.

The statements of practice – teaching and learning

DOMAIN 1: LEARNER OUTCOMES

STANDARDS	STATEMENTS OF EFFECTIVE PRACTICE	STATEMENTS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE PRACTICE
Pupils enjoy their learning, are motivated to learn and expect to achieve as learners	Pupils' enjoyment in learning is evident and is often linked to a sense of making progress and of achievement. Their engagement with learning contributes to their sense of well- being.	Pupils' enjoyment in learning is evident and arises from a sense of making progress and of achievement. Their engagement with learning contributes to their sense of well- being.
	Pupils are motivated to learn, and this is often linked to having a clear sense of attainable learning outcomes.	Pupils are motivated to learn through having a clear sense of attainable and challenging learning outcomes.
	Pupils see themselves as learners and demonstrate this in their positive approach to classwork and homework.	Pupils see themselves as learners and demonstrate this in their positive and reflective approach to classwork and homework.
Pupils have the necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes required to understand themselves and their relationships	Pupils demonstrate a knowledge, appropriate to their stage of development, of their own behaviour as individuals and as members of a group. They can apply this knowledge to manage situations and to support their well- being.	Pupils demonstrate a knowledge, appropriate to their stage of development, of their own behaviour as individuals and as members of a group. They apply this knowledge thoughtfully to manage situations and to support their well-being.
	Pupils have the skills to modify and adapt their behaviour when required.	Pupils have the skills to modify and adapt their behaviour when required, and recognise the need to do so themselves.
	Pupils demonstrate an enquiring attitude towards themselves and those around them.	Pupils demonstrate an enquiring and open- minded attitude towards themselves and those around them.
Pupils demonstrate the knowledge, skills and understanding required by the	Pupils' subject-specific skills and attitudes are developed in accordance with the Primary School Curriculum.	Pupils' subject-specific skills and attitudes are developed in accordance with the Primary School Curriculum.
primary curriculum	The pupils' knowledge, skills and understanding for the specific subjects of the curriculum are at a good standard in accordance with the objectives, skills and concepts of the Primary School Curriculum.	The pupils' knowledge, skills and understanding for the specific subjects of the curriculum are at a very good standard in accordance with the objectives, skills and concepts of the Primary School Curriculum.
	The overall attainment of the pupils is improving or is at a good standard in accordance with the objectives and skills of the Primary School Curriculum.	The overall attainment of the pupils is improving or is at a very good standard in accordance with the objectives and skills of the Primary School Curriculum.

STANDARDS	STATEMENTS OF EFFECTIVE PRACTICE	STATEMENTS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE PRACTICE	
Pupils achieve the stated learning objectives for the term and year	Pupils achieve the intended learning objectives of the lesson, which have been appropriately differentiated where necessary.	Pupils achieve, and at times surpass, the intended learning objectives of the lesson, which have been appropriately differentiated where necessary.	for me
	Pupils demonstrate that they have achieved the stated learning objectives for the term and year, which have been appropriately differentiated where necessary.	Pupils demonstrate that they have achieved, and at times surpassed, the stated learning objectives for the term and year, which have been appropriately differentiated where necessary.	for me
	Pupils' achievement in summative assessments, including standardised tests, is in line with or above realistic expectations.	Pupils' achievement in summative assessments, including standardised tests, is in line with or above realistic expectations.	for me

DOMAIN 2: LEARNER EXPERIENCES

STANDARDS	STATEMENTS OF EFFECTIVE PRACTICE	STATEMENTS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE PRACTICE	
Pupils engage purposefully in meaningful learning	Pupils demonstrate high levels of interest and participation in learning.	Pupils demonstrate very high levels of interest and participation in learning.	for me
activities	They are able to work both independently and collaboratively in a purposeful manner.	They are able to work both independently and collaboratively in a very purposeful and productive manner .	for me
	They understand and can explain the purpose of the learning tasks they are engaged in.	They understand and can explain the purpose of the learning tasks they are engaged in, and can extend and develop the activity meaningfully.	for me
	They are able to report on, present, and explain the process and outcome of learning activities to a competent level.	They are able to report on, present, and explain the process and outcome of learning activities to a highly competent level.	for me
Pupils grow as learners through respectful interactions and	Interactions among pupils and between pupils and teachers are respectful and positive, and conducive to well-being.	Interactions among pupils and between pupils and teachers are very respectful and positive , and conducive to well-being.	
experiences that are challenging and supportive	Relationships and interactions in classrooms and learning areas support a co-operative and productive learning environment.	Relationships and interactions in classrooms and learning areas create and sustain a co- operative, affirming and productive learning environment.	
	Pupils' experiences as learners generally reflect well on how the code of behaviour is understood and implemented.	Pupils' experiences as learners reflect consistently well on how the code of behaviour is understood and implemented.	
	Pupils feel able to contribute their opinions and experiences to class discussion. They listen respectfully to the opinions and experiences of their classmates.	Pupils contribute their opinions and experiences to class discussion with confidence. They are respectful of and interested in the opinions and experiences of their classmates.	
	They ask questions and suggest possible solutions confidently. They are willing to risk incorrect responses, and accept that mistakes are part of the learning process.	They ask questions and suggest possible solutions very confidently. They are willing to risk incorrect responses, and understand the value of making mistakes, using them as learning opportunities.	
	They demonstrate a sufficient level of motivation to engage and persist with increasingly challenging work.	They demonstrate a high level of motivation , and enjoy engaging and persisting with increasingly challenging work.	5 for me

STANDARDS	STATEMENTS OF EFFECTIVE PRACTICE	STATEMENTS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE PRACTICE
Pupils reflect on their progress as learners and develop a sense of ownership of and	Pupils assess their progress and are aware of their strengths and areas for development as learners.	Pupils assess their progress realistically and can describe their strengths and areas for development as learners.
responsibility for their learning	They take pride in their work and follow the guidance they receive to improve it.	They have a sense of ownership of their work, take pride in it, and take responsibility for improving it.
	They reflect on their behaviour and attitude to learning, and are able to contribute to setting meaningful goals for themselves.	They reflect on their behaviour and attitude to learning, and are able to set meaningful personal goals as a result of their reflection.
	Where the curriculum provides opportunities to do so, pupils are able to negotiate their learning thereby increasing their autonomy as learners.	Where the curriculum provides opportunities to do so, pupils negotiate their learning thereby increasing their autonomy and effectiveness as learners.
	Pupils take responsibility for their own learning, and use the learning resources provided to them to develop their skills and extend their knowledge.	Pupils take responsibility for their own learning, and use both the learning resources provided to them, and those that they source themselves , to develop their skills and extend their knowledge.
Pupils experience opportunities to develop the skills and attitudes necessary	Pupils make meaningful connections between learning in different subjects and areas of the curriculum.	Pupils make meaningful and authentic connections between learning in different subjects and areas of the curriculum.
for lifelong learning	Pupils make meaningful connections between school-based learning and learning that takes place in other contexts.	Pupils make meaningful and authentic connections between school-based learning and learning that takes place in other contexts
	Pupils can, with some guidance, transfer and apply skills learned in one context to another context.	Pupils can, of their own initiative, transfer and apply skills learned in one context to another context
	Pupils are aware of the key skills underpinning the curriculum and of their relevance to present and future learning.	Pupils can explain the key skills underpinning the curriculum and understand their relevance to present and future learning.
	They take the opportunities provided by curricular and other learning experiences to apply and develop these key skills.	They take the opportunities provided by curricular and other learning experiences to apply and develop these key skills consciously and deliberately .
	Pupils have an age-appropriate understanding of the concept of lifelong learning, and are well disposed to continuing education and training.	Pupils have an age-appropriate understanding of the concept of lifelong learning, and see themselves engaging in continuing education and training.

DOMAIN 3: TEACHERS' INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE

STANDARDS	STATEMENTS OF EFFECTIVE PRACTICE	STATEMENTS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE PRACTICE
The teacher	Teachers' plans identify clear, relevant learning	Teachers' plans identify clear, relevant learning
selects and	objectives that are contextualised to pupils'	objectives that are contextualised to pupils'
uses planning,	learning needs.	learning needs. Learning objectives reflect a
reparation		developmental and incremental approach to
nd assessment		progressing pupils' learning.
ractices that		
progress pupils'	Teachers design and prepare in advance a	Teachers design and prepare in advance a
earning	sequence of learning tasks and activities suitable	sequence of learning tasks and activities suitable
	for the specific learning objectives of the lesson	for the specific learning objectives of the lesson
	or series of lessons.	or series of lessons. The lesson design is flexible
		to allow for emerging learning opportunities.
	Teachers identify and prepare in advance	Teachers identify and thoroughly prepare in
	resources suitable for the specific learning	advance resources tailored to match the specific
	objectives of each lesson, or series of lessons, and	learning objectives of each lesson, or series of
	the learning needs of the class.	lessons, and individual pupils' learning needs.
	Teachers' preparation includes preparation	Teachers' preparation includes preparation
	for the differentiation of learning objectives	for the differentiation of learning objectives
	and learning activities, and is informed by	and learning activities, including personalised
	meaningful use of data.	learning opportunities, and is informed by
		meaningful use of data.
	Teachers plan for assessing pupils' attainment of	Teachers plan for assessing all relevant aspects
	the intended learning objectives of the lesson,	of pupils' learning using both assessment of
	or series of lessons, using both assessment of	learning and assessment for learning.
	learning and assessment for learning.	
	Teachers' assessment practices include not only	Teachers' assessment practices include not only
	assessment of knowledge but also assessment of	assessment of knowledge but also assessment of
	skills and dispositions.	skills and dispositions. Teachers tailor assessment
		strategies to meet individual learning needs.
	Teachers regularly provide pupils with	Teachers regularly provide pupils with
	constructive, developmental oral and written	constructive, developmental oral and written
	feedback on their work.	feedback. Teachers use feedback to work with
		pupils on clear strategies for improvement.
	Teachers share success criteria with pupils so that	Teachers share success criteria with pupils so that
	they can assess their own learning through self-	they can assess their own learning through self-
	assessment and peer assessment.	assessment and peer assessment, and identify
		strengths, areas for improvement and strategies
		to achieve improvement.
	Teachers maintain assessment records that are	Teachers maintain assessment records that are
	clear, useful and easy to interpret and share.	clear, useful, easy to interpret and share, and
	the and the casy to interpret and share.	tailored to pupils' individual learning needs.
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STANDARDS	STATEMENTS OF EFFECTIVE PRACTICE	STATEMENTS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE PRACTICE	
The teacher selects and	Teachers strategically select and use approaches to match the learning objective of the lesson and	Teachers strategically select and use approaches to match the learning objective of the lesson,	
uses teaching approaches appropriate to	meet the learning needs of pupils.	meet the learning needs of pupils, and open up further learning opportunities.	5 fo
the learning objective and to pupils' learning needs	Teachers deliver good-quality instruction which is directed at eliciting pupil engagement. Teachers maintain a balance between their own input and productive pupil participation and response.	Teachers deliver highly effective instruction which is directed at eliciting deep pupil engagement. Teachers skilfully manage their own input to optimise pupil participation and response.	
	Teachers use a range of questioning techniques effectively for a variety of purposes including stimulating substantial pupil responses and facilitating deeper engagement with lesson content.	Teachers use a range of questioning techniques effectively for a variety of purposes including stimulating substantial pupil responses, facilitating deeper engagement with lesson content and extending learning beyond the lesson .	
	Teachers meaningfully differentiate content and activities in order to cater for the varying needs and abilities of pupils.	Teachers meaningfully differentiate content and activities in order to ensure that all pupils are challenged by the learning activities and experience success as learners.	S For
	Teachers purposefully develop relevant literacy and numeracy skills during lessons.	Teachers integrate relevant literacy and numeracy skills into the fabric of the lesson.	
	Teachers enable pupils to make meaningful links between lesson material and their learning in other subjects and elsewhere.	Teachers enable pupils to make meaningful links between lesson material and their learning in other subjects and to transfer their learning to unfamiliar experiences.	
The teacher responds to individual learning needs and	Teachers are aware of pupils' individual learning needs, and adapt teaching and learning practices to help pupils overcome challenges.	Teachers are aware of pupils' individual learning needs, and design and implement personalised interventions to help pupils overcome challenges.	S ^{DEL} for
differentiates teaching and learning activities as necessary	Teachers engage with pupils' opinions, dispositions, and contexts, and modify their teaching practice to build on opportunities and address any limitations that they present.	Teachers engage with pupils' opinions, dispositions, and contexts, and modify their teaching practice to build on opportunities and address any limitations that they present. Teachers empower pupils to exploit these opportunities and overcome their limitations.	