



East Bierley CE (VC) Primary School  
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Head Teacher: Mrs L Upham  
Assistant Head Teachers: Mrs R Divine and Mrs C Sneddon

Dear Parents/Carers

29<sup>th</sup> March 2018

I am writing to inform you that we have been randomly selected to participate in technical testing of national curriculum assessments by the Standards and Testing Agency (STA). Participation in this process is statutory. This is a process to test the questions, not the children or school and to ensure all questions are appropriate, fair and the standards are maintained. The children will sit the assessment but we will not be informed of their results. The window for this is during the two weeks after we return from the Easter holiday.

We have been selected to pre-test the Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling tests. Children will sit two full rounds of this test as part of the process. This will be done during one morning with a break between papers. The papers will then be taken from school and we will receive no further feedback and the results will not count towards their SATs.

Due to this selection, we have decided we will not ask the children to do any other work in assessment conditions in the run up to their SATs week but will focus on paired and group work when looking at questions instead. We appreciate that the sampling means the children have an additional test – with someone they do not know present, but we know they are used to answering questions based on Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling and do so very well. They will see that a SAT paper is not different to general class based assessments beyond the covering of class displays and we hope it will take any concern away from their actual SATs week.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to me.

Yours faithfully

Mrs L Upham  
Headteacher

