

TO ALL HEADTEACHERS AND CHAIRS OF GOVERNORS

Dear Headteacher and Chair of Governors

Re: Summary of target-setting guidance at KS2

On the 5th September I wrote to you with detailed guidance about the new target-setting arrangements at KS2. This guidance has not changed but in the intervening time we have had various meetings and briefings with the DfES that have clarified some points further. Therefore, it may be helpful for you to have this update as you finalise your statutory targets for 2005.

The following target-setting arrangements apply:

- Statutory targets should be set for L4 and L5 in English and mathematics for pupils taking national tests in 2005
- Schools are advised to set targets for other year groups in KS2, for example, the current Year 4 who will take their national test in 2006, but this is good practice and not statutory.
- Targets already set for 2004 and those for your current Year 5 and Year 4 will form a trajectory to 2006. This may indicate year on year improvement, but the steps could be equal, different sized or in some cases show a decrease depending on the cohort.
- Schools achieving below 65% in 2003, and setting targets for 2004 or 2005 that are below 65% should set a clear trajectory that shows how they plan to reach 65% by 2006. Your RDA will discuss this with you.
- 2004 targets may be formerly revised in some cases, where you can demonstrate that existing targets are unrealistic. Following analysis of 2003 results and comparative data you may feel that the targets are unachievable or insufficiently challenging. If you have this evidence your RDA will discuss the process for re-setting targets.

The LEA continues to provide schools with Fischer Trust data and encourages you use the columns C / D to identify targets for pupils that will add value. The Pupil Achievement Tracker (PAT) replaces the Autumn Package and will enable you to interact with your school data at both whole-school level and that of specific groups of pupils that are relevant to you.

Your RDA will discuss targets with you and will want to explore how you have arrived at them. They may make suggestions to you that will enable you to identify the potential for adding greater value to the progress of some pupils. The school targets are, however, yours to set in the spirit of the DfES recommendations that they should be stretching but realistic.

If you wish to discuss this further please contact Terry Cook at the Professional Development Centre, Tel 01603 433276.

Yours sincerely,
Bryan Slater
Director of Education

