

Howth Road Mixed National School

Policy on Assessment

December 2011.

In line with the 1999 Curriculum, Howth Road Mixed National School places great importance on Assessment within the school.

Assessment plays a key role in

- Planning new learning
- Sharing with children what their new learning with involve
- Exploring successes in learning
- Using appropriate methodologies and classroom organisational strategies
- Gathering and recording information on what and how our children are learning

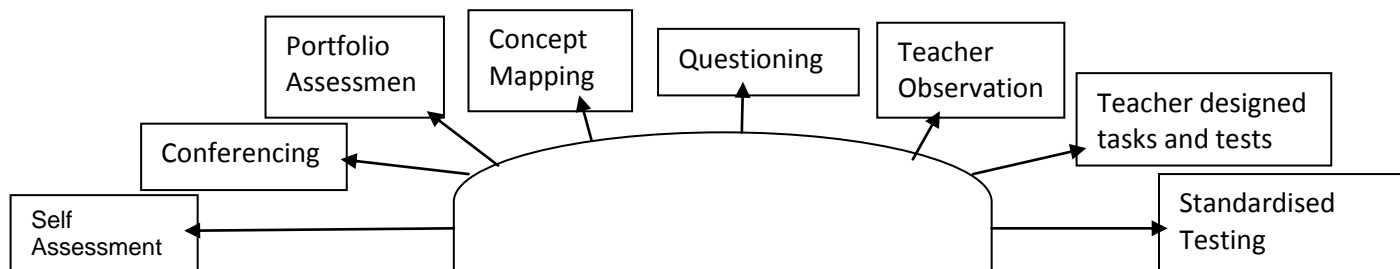
At Howth Road N.S. we recognise that not all pupils learn the same way and hence, that not all assessment techniques will best reflect the progress of the child.

Therefore before assessment takes place, class teachers must first question

- How will I assess?
- How will I use the information I gather?

Howth Road N S is a school that, by its care ethos, places huge emphasis on support and encouragement in learning. Assessment should be seen and approached positively. Therefore, assessment can be conducted formally and informally in order to remove the stress of 'testing' from the child.

In line with the N.C.C.A. curriculum guidelines on assessment, teachers can select from a variety of styles of assessment which range from child-led assessment to teacher-led assessment on a spectrum.



It is envisioned that all of the above methodologies would be used in order to best assess a pupil's overall progress, giving a rounded view of the pupil.

Details of the methodologies are to be found in the Curriculum guidelines on Assessment, however, a further note on the school's use of Standardised Testing now follows, due to their use in Department of Education and Skills planning for Literacy and Numeracy strategies.