



To Parents at Maiden Erlegh School

2 October 2019

Dear Parents

Last year the DFE wrote to schools asking them to review their practices regarding their management of data. They asked us to reflect on this in the context of workload reduction but also in the context of developing assessment practice in the round.

Across the Trust, we spent a great deal of time last year reflecting on our assessment and reporting arrangements and have made some important changes from this year.

Each school in the Trust will only collect assessment data centrally three times per year. This means that parents and students will receive three reports per annum.

Your school's reporting schedule can be found here: [Reporting to parents](#)

This means that teachers can focus even more on the planning and delivery of the curriculum, and use a wider range of assessment strategies.

We invite parents to look at their children's books and folders, where they will see feedback provided by the teachers (or sometimes other students or through self-review). They will also see examples of work or responses which the students have improved based on that feedback. We call this DIRT (Directed Independent Reflection and Thinking) and we know that the students who put time and care into reflecting on feedback and go back over their work, invariably make excellent progress. Furthermore, because they are more in control of their progress, and understand their learning better, they manage their learning far more effectively. This then has a positive impact on their wellbeing. We would appreciate it very much if you would encourage your child to make the most of feedback and DIRT activities.

You will find a copy of the school's assessment policy here [Assessment and Reporting Policy](#) and some more information about assessment and reporting here [Parents guide to assessment](#).

If you have any questions about this policy or practice, please contact Mr Paul Gibson, Headteacher at [office@maidenerleghschool.co.uk](mailto:office@maidenerleghschool.co.uk) If you have any questions about a particular subject's approach to assessment or the use of feedback, please contact the relevant Head of Department.

Yours sincerely

Miss M Davies  
Chief Executive Officer  
Maiden Erlegh Trust