

Dear Parent,

This year, for the first time, every pupil from years 2 to 9 have sat Procedural Numeracy Assessments. The assessment is carried out online, and the system generates questions based on the pupil's response to the previous question. That is, if a pupil answers a question correctly, the following question will be slightly more difficult, and if a pupil fails to answer a question correctly, the following question will be slightly easier.

However, it appears that a number of pupils have come across a number of particularly challenging questions based on mathematical concepts and aspects that are beyond their experience and knowledge, for example Pi (π) in year 2, VAT in year 3, powers in year 4 etc.

As each pupil completes the assessment, the system creates a report outlining what they have achieved to do and the mathematical aspects that need to be developed further.

Due to the types of questions that a large number of pupils have received, it's possible that the report will not be an accurate reflection of their performance and ability.

I would like to inform you that the Local Authority along with a number of Head teachers in Powys, have contacted the Welsh Government outlining our concerns in the hopes that these issues can be resolved to ensure the success of the online assessments.