



London Borough of Hillingdon Statutory Assessment and Moderation 2025/26

Overview

2025/26 Statutory Assessment and Moderation will follow the usual timetable for KS2 only. Unannounced monitoring visits for KS2 tests and KS1 phonics testing will continue as usual.

Actions Required	By Date
Assessment Leads to sign up to STA alerts	asap
Teachers to sign up to moderation training detailed below	asap
Check Key stage 2 teacher assessment guidance	ongoing
Teachers to complete LA Moderator Application Form	17 th November 2025
All academy schools must select their LA moderation partner HERE (including if opting out)	9 th January 2026

STA Guidance

Schools should follow the [STA guidance](#) to ensure compliance with requirements. The STA issue regular updates to all schools and Assessment Leads should [sign up here](#) to receive these alerts directly.

Key Dates

KS2 Tests

Monday 11th May – Thursday 14th May 2026. Please follow this guidance: [National curriculum assessments: key stage 2 tests - GOV.UK](#)

Multiplication Tables Check

Schools must administer the MTC to all eligible Year 4 pupils between Monday 1st June and Friday 12th June 2026. Please follow this guidance: [Multiplication tables check - GOV.UK](#)

Phonics Screening Check

Phonics screening check will be administered during Monday 8th – Friday 12th June 2026 following this guidance: [Phonics screening check - GOV.UK](#)

Academy Schools Selecting the LA as Moderation Partner

As you will know, all academy schools are responsible for confirming to the STA which LA they have an agreement for assessment monitoring and moderation by Friday 9th January 2026. If your academy school would like to use the London Borough of Hillingdon as your moderation and assessment partner, you must confirm this via [this form](#) (including if opting out) by Friday 9th January 2026. If your academy school plans to use a different local authority for moderation and assessment services this must also be confirmed on the form, to register that you have opted out.

Recharging costs will be **£250** per academic year. This recharge includes the following services:

- Inclusion within the London Borough of Hillingdon's cycle of statutory assessment monitoring visits (KS2 tests and Year 1 Phonics Screening). A visit will be undertaken within 4 years as a minimum.
- Inclusion within the London Borough of Hillingdon's cycle of statutory assessment moderation visits (KS2 writing teacher assessment). A visit will be undertaken within 4 years as a minimum.

- Access to LA Assessment and Moderation briefing papers.
- Opportunities for teachers to attend LA training sessions and cluster session as detailed below.

The requirement to take part in assessment arrangements is included in your funding agreement and is detailed in the KS2 national Assessment and Reporting Arrangements. This requirement is in place to ensure that the progress and attainment measures for schools and pupils is accurate for school accountability. Please be aware that failure by an academy school to put in place an agreement with a local authority for the 2025-26 KS2 assessments may lead to suppression of results.

Unannounced Monitoring of KS2 Tests and KS1 Phonics Screening Check

The LA has a statutory duty to undertake unannounced monitoring visits for at least 10% of schools. These unannounced visits can take place before, during or after the tests. Information regarding the areas of school practice that are scrutinised during these unannounced visits can be found in the ARA for each key stage.

Moderation of KS2 Writing Teacher Assessment

25% of all schools will be moderated following a 4-year cycle as a minimum.

- Notification of moderation visits will take place on or after Friday 15th May 2026 by email to the Headteacher.
- Moderation visits will run from Monday 1st June to Friday 26th June 2026.
- The data submission deadline to the STA is Friday 26th June 2026.

Training

Teachers from Hillingdon's maintained schools are invited to attend the following funded LA training sessions. Academies can join if they have purchased Hillingdon's moderation partner offer detailed above.

New to Year 6 Moderation Briefing Session (online)

- Thursday 6th November 2025
- 11 am – 12 pm
- Via MS Teams

Suitable for: Teachers that have recently joined Year 6 and those wanting a refresher

Content: Introduction to assessment and moderation requirements

Preparation: Have access to a copy of the [KS2 TAF](#)

LEAP: Please [have this link open](#) to access resources which may be uploaded before the session

Register to attend [HERE](#) by 30th October 2025 and a link to join the session will be sent to you.

LA Assessment and Moderation Briefing Session 1 (online)

- Thursday 20th November 2025
- 10.30 am – 12 pm
- Via MS Teams

Suitable for: Year 6 teachers/Writing leads

Content: STA guidance and requirements for KS2 writing

Preparation: Have access to a copy of the [KS2 TAF](#)

LEAP: Please [have this link open](#) to access resources which will be uploaded before the session

Register to attend [HERE](#) by 13th November 2025 and a link to join the session will be sent to you.

LA Assessment and Moderation Briefing Session 2 (online)

- Thursday 5th February 2026
- 10.30 am – 12 pm
- Via MS Teams

Suitable for: Year 6 teachers/Writing leads

Content: Refresher on STA guidance and requirements for KS2 writing. This second briefing session will be like Briefing Session 1 and teachers are welcome to attend both sessions to embed their understanding. Teachers do not need to have attended the first session to attend the second session.

Preparation: Have access to a copy of the [KS2 TAF](#)

LEAP: [have this link open](#) to access resources which will be uploaded before the session

Please register to attend [HERE](#) by 29th January 2026 and a link to join the session will be sent to you.

LA Writing Moderation Cluster Session (in person)

- Thursday 19th March 2026
- 9 am – 12.30 pm
- Civic Centre, Uxbridge UB8 1UW

Suitable for: Year 6 teachers/Writing leads

Content: Cluster session to provide teachers with the opportunity to work with colleagues collaboratively to explore standards and expectations in KS2 writing.

Preparation: Please bring evidence of writing from 3 pupils in your class working at WTS, EXS and high EXS/potential GDS.

LEAP: [have this link open](#) to access resources which will be uploaded before the session

Please register to attend [HERE](#) by 26th February 2026 and further details will be sent to you.

We understand that the training session dates and times are not always suitable for all. These are scheduled based on resource availability. For teachers that cannot attend, the presentation slides used during the sessions will be shared after the event on [LEAP](#).

LA Moderators' Recruitment - Free CPD Opportunity

The LA is recruiting Year 6 teachers to become moderators for the 2026 cycle of tests. We welcome applications from both new and experienced moderators. Full training is provided, and new moderators will be paired with experienced moderators to ensure they are fully supported. To apply, teachers should meet the STA requirements detailed below:

All LA moderators must be qualified teachers with recent and relevant experience of KS2 English writing assessment and internal or external moderation. All LA moderators must be able to:

- Successfully complete the LA training and STA standardisation process for moderation of KS2 writing.
- Systematically review evidence against the TA frameworks and adhere to STA guidance.
- Manage a professional discussion with teachers about the evidence presented and how a pupil's work meets the standard.
- Where appropriate, discuss and explain why a school's TA judgements cannot be validated.
- Provide accurate written and verbal feedback to the teacher(s) and Headteacher.
- Be fully released from school duties to attend all training sessions during the year. Dates will be shared once application is approved.
- Potential LA moderators must be available to moderate other schools for the whole of the moderation window (June) but will only be used for approximately 4 days during this period - actual dates will be shared in May therefore flexibility with availability is essential. If you have other commitments, such as trips or need to cover in school then please do not apply this year.

Schools that provide teachers to the LA Moderation Team will be reimbursed for releasing teachers to undertake visits in June at £100 per day. Training for this role will be provided and funded by the LA. Please note that reimbursement will not be provided for the release of teachers attending moderation training as this is treated as funded CPD. Moderation training can be an excellent opportunity for staff professional development and Headteachers are encouraged to share this information with all teachers who may wish to apply.

Teachers who are interested in applying to be a LA Moderator should seek permission from the Headteacher and submit this [APPLICATION FORM](#) by 3 pm on Monday 17th November 2025. Applicants will be contacted early December to discuss next steps.

LA Support

If you have any queries or require further support, you can email the Moderation Team at education@hillingdon.gov.uk

Please keep up to date via [LEAP](#) where new information will be uploaded at each training point.