



LEARNING LADDERS

The Depth Index



Please ensure that you have read and understood the Depth Index guidance before enabling this feature on your Learning Ladders site.

Background

“What is mastery?”

“How do I show good progress?”

“How do I track depth?”

These questions have been the source of many discussions not only within Learning Ladders but in every school across the country over the last 18 months. We are often asked for guidance on how you can assess mastery or depth within your school, alongside trying to define ‘good’ progress. Of course, in this era of assessment without levels there are no simple answers but as a company we want to support you with the curriculum and assessment decisions you face.

The new curriculum is focused on the crucial deepening and consolidating of the skills that your pupils are learning throughout their time at school rather than racing through the curriculum. However when you are asked to show progress there is an inherent question about how do you show progress and depth at the same time? One requires you moving through skills within the curriculum whilst the other is about steadily deepening your knowledge

After numerous discussions with schools and focus groups we are pleased to announce that you will now be able to use our ‘Depth Index’ which will enable you to focus in more detail on what your pupils can and cannot do.

It is challenging to measure progress and depth in the same way however the Depth Index enables you to have the best of both worlds, and see your pupils progressing with this deepening of their understanding.

What to Expect

- ➔ An additional assessment for every rung (Noted 'D')
- ➔ A Depth column within Scorecard
- ➔ A percentage calculation for Depth
- ➔ Updated assessments across Learning Ladders
 - o Class Assessment, Bulk Note Assessment, Note Assessment
 - o Gap Analysis
 - o Pupil Ladder History
 - o Pupil Statements
 - o Cohort Performance

A Scorecard score will not be affected by the Depth Index. This will continue to form separately.

The Depth Index is a percentage calculated from the number of rung statements a pupil has started, and how many have been assessed as a pupil fully consolidating and having a depth of understanding (the additional assessment).

This is individual to each pupil. You may have a number of pupils with the same score but a varying Depth Index percentage. This is due to the individual's understanding of the curriculum statements that you are assessing.

When you begin any additional rungs the Depth Index will amend in line with the introduction of a new skill.

Rung	Scorecard Assessment	Depth Index
	✓ ✓ ✓	
	✓ ✓ ✓	
	✓ ✓ ✓	✓
	✓ ✓ ✓	✓
Score	80	50%
This indicates that while this pupil may be progressing through their curriculum, they do not have the deeper understanding. As a teacher I need to make sure I am consolidating their knowledge before introducing any new concepts.		

Rung	Scorecard Assessment	Depth Index
	✓ ✓ ✓	✓
	✓ ✓ ✓	✓
	✓ ✓ ✓	✓
	✓ ✓ ✓	✓
Score	80	100%
After focusing on these particular areas, the pupil clearly has the confidence and understanding to move on to new areas within their curriculum.		

Rung	Scorecard Assessment	Depth Index
	✓ ✓ ✓	
	✓ ✓ ✓	✓
	✓ ✓ ✓	✓
	✓ ✓ ✓	✓
	✓ ✓ ✓	✓
Score	100	80%
The pupil has now been covering new areas within the curriculum and will start to consolidate their knowledge.		

Assessing Using the Depth Index

You can note assessment for the Depth Index in the same way that you would have previously noted assessment.






- Class Assessment
- Pupil Starting Points
- Note Assessment
- Bulk Note Assessment

You can back-fill previous depth assessments within Pupil Starting Points. This won't over-ride previous assessments made but will add in any additional assessments for your pupils.

 Please note: You will need to back-fill depth assessments from the previous years for the index to display the correct percentage

Viewing the Depth Index:

You will be able to view the depth assessments made within the following areas:

-  Gap Analysis
-  Pupil Ladder History
-  Pupil Statements
-  Scorecard
-  Cohort Performance

How to: Enable the Depth Index



Click on 'School Admin'



Click 'Settings'



Select the checkbox to enable the depth index



Click 'Save'

The depth assessment point and depth index scale is now active on your site.