

Pope Francis Faith Award - Phase 1

Guidance on Assessment

This guidance was developed from advice provided by a working group of teachers from phase 1 PFFA schools¹. They were asked to devise an assessment model which would produce fair and consistent assessment, without imposing additional burdens on pupils, teachers and schools.

CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT

It is recognised that, as staff use continuous assessment to track pupil progress as pupils collect evidence, it will be beneficial for schools to follow a timeline with dedicated **Progress Checkpoints** which prompt a review of progress, involve pupils in self / peer evaluation of evidence and enable planning for next steps. These checkpoints will also provide opportunities for parents to be updated on progress with the award (including any notable achievements at particular stages). Progress checkpoints should help to distinguish between those pupils who are not engaged in the award (and will therefore not achieve it) and those who may need extra help and encouragement. If a pupil is not engaged in the award, then parents should be made aware of this as early as possible.

PUPIL ASSESSMENT SHEET

The Pupil Assessment sheet will help pupils and teachers to monitor how well the award success criteria have been met. This sheet includes a section to be signed by the teacher at the end of the award process.

ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS AT HOME

While we recognise that there will be varying levels support given at home to pupils, we require at least one confirmation from parents that pupils have shown some “signs of love” at home when they were undertaking the award. In one of the “Concluding Evidence” pages of the Faith Journal, the pupil is asked to reflect on what their actions at home. Parents should be asked to sign this page (or photocopy) to verify this.

PARISH COMMENDATION SHEET

This sheet provides space to record the outcome of the Parish ‘check-ins’ which will happen at the same time as Progress Checkpoints. Their purpose is to enable the pupil to share with the Parish Priest: *‘How I have been playing my part in the parish’*. It provides space for the Parish Priest to comment on the pupil’s participation in the parish. The school will retain this as part of the pupil’s evidence of achievement.

¹ Caroline Campbell (St Mark’s Hamilton), Pamela Gallagher (St Patrick’s Strathaven), Linda Forsyth (St Thomas Arbroath), Chris Wedlock (St Columbkille’s Rutherglen), Maureen Cumming (Our Lady of the Missions East Renfrewshire), Nicola McLaughlin (Cathedral Primary Motherwell), Catriona Durning (St Teresa’s Newarthill), Marie Tierney (St Andrew’s Cumbernauld), Laura Findlay (St Joseph’s Cardowan)

ASSESSMENT EVIDENCE

Examples of types of evidence, including faith witness action and reflections, will be shown on the SCES website to help teachers see what success might look like for some of the criteria. It is important to recall that **the Faith Journal is intended to act as a scrapbook which will contain the main evidence which indicates pupil progress**. So, while some evidence will be in the form of short written entries, others might be photographs or photocopies of activities or short notes signed by a parent, teacher or priest.

P7 PERSONAL PROFILE

While the formats of P7 Personal Profiles vary across schools and Council areas, their purpose is common - to enable pupils to identify their personal skills, attributes and potential so that secondary school teachers can take due account of these. PFFA has been designed to enable pupils to offer reflective statements about their personal development including their formation in faith.

ASSESSMENT DEADLINE

It is important for the school to set a deadline for completing the various activities, in order to submit final assessment results to SCES by the end of May. N.B. SCES can accept later submissions from those pupils who are unable to meet all the criteria until a later date.

ASSESSMENT, MODERATION AND VERIFICATION

By the end of April, pupils should present their collected evidence (Faith Journal) to the class teacher. (S)he should then assess the evidence against the success criteria to assess if the pupil has been successful. The head teacher should make appropriate arrangements for one or more colleagues to moderate this assessment internally – i.e., provide an independent view of the evidence.

In **early May 2015** phase1 pilot schools will be invited to attend a **Verification meeting** to which they will bring a few Faith Journals showing: a) clearly met success criteria b) met success criteria; c) success criteria likely to be met with further help. At the Verification meeting advice on the assessment of these samples will be given.

By the **end of May** schools will be asked to submit to SCES their list of pupil names with award results listed - YES /NO.

RESULTS & CERTIFICATES

In early June SCES will send certificates for all pupils who have achieved the award. They will also supply prayer cards and lapel pin badges in the shape of the pectoral Cross worn by Pope Francis.

Given the numbers of pupils involved in phase 1 and subsequently, it is not viable to arrange one national event at which these certificates would be presented. We anticipate that each school and parish would want to arrange an appropriate opportunity to present the awards in the local community. In subsequent years, it might be viable to organise events at a diocesan or deanery level, depending on the numbers involved.

Pope Francis Faith Award - Phase 1

Assessment Timeline - Session 2014-15

August to April	Complete Gathering points 5-8
late January	<p>Progress Checkpoint</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of progress made against success criteria • (self or peer) Assessment of evidence collected so far • Next steps: What do I need to do to complete the award? • Feedback to parents (including opportunity to discuss what will happen if pupils are not on target to achieve the award)
early February (during Catholic Education Week?)	<p>Parish check-in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupil agrees with PP: 'How I have been playing my part in the parish'; •
March / April	<p>P7 Personal Profile</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupil chooses statements from reflective statements in Faith Journal to add to their P7 Personal Profile. <p>Pupil presents collected evidence (Faith Journal) to teacher</p> <p>Parish Commendation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils present Parish Commendation sheet to Parish Priest for assessment and signing <p>Teacher assesses evidence against success criteria</p> <p>School moderates assessment</p>
early May	<p>SCES holds Verification meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sample assessments verified or adjusted
late May	School sends results to SCES
early June	SCES issues certificates & Badges

Pope Francis Faith Award

Pupil Assessment Sheet

School:	Town:
---------	-------

Pupil Name:

Success Criterion 1

The evidence which shows that I have used the Gifts of the Holy Spirit in my daily life can be seen in these pages of my Faith Journal:

Gift of the Holy Spirit	in school	at home	in my parish
Knowledge			
Reverence			
Wisdom			
Courage			
Wonder and Awe			
Right Judgement			
Understanding			

Success Criterion 2

The evidence which shows that **I have reflected** on these actions and how they have affected me can be seen in the **Concluding Evidence** pages of my Faith Journal:

reflection on my actions in school	
reflection on my actions at home	
reflection on my actions in my parish	
reflections included in my P7 Personal Profile	

Teacher Comment	
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have assessed this pupil's evidence of success in the Pope Francis Faith Award.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am happy to confirm that he/she deserves to receive the Pope Francis Faith Award.

Teacher signature: _____

Date:

Head Teacher: _____

Pope Francis Faith Award
Parish Commendation Sheet

School:	Town:
Parish:	Priest:

Pupil Name:

Parish check-in

These are the things which I've been doing to play my part in the life of my parish:

What?	When?

Pupil signature:

Date:

Parish Priest comment
<input type="checkbox"/> I have assessed how well this young parishioner has participated in the life of this parish. <input type="checkbox"/> I am happy to confirm that he/she deserves to receive the Pope Francis Faith Award with a PARISH COMMENDATION .

Parish priest signature: _____

Date: