Teacher assessment moderation: standardisation and training process

FAO: Headteachers, KS1& KS2 moderators, Literacy leaders

From:**Standards and Testing Agency**
Standardisation provides schools with assurance that LA moderation teams have the required knowledge to undertake moderation of key stage 1 (KS1) and key stage 2 (KS2) English writing teacher assessment (TA).

It ensures:

- the consistency and accuracy of TA and its moderation across England
- LA moderators are familiar with the KS1 and KS2 English writing frameworks for the 2021 to 2022 academic year

Each key stage is moderated annually (excluding 2020 and 2021). LAs are required to moderate at least 25% of maintained schools and 25% of academies and participating independent schools, that have opted into the LA's external moderation process.

Approval to moderate

Standardisation exercises are used to gain STA approval to moderate and are undertaken annually. The usual approach to standardisation exercises was suspended for 2021 but is returning for the 2021/22 academic year.

STA approval to moderate English writing in 2022 will only be granted on successful completion of a standardisation exercise. Each moderator will have a maximum of 2 exercise attempts.

Moderator training

From 2021/22, there will be a change to how training is delivered. Face-to-face training events will be replaced with online self-guided training materials.

Initial training materials will be available on the [Primary Assessment Gateway](#), from 1 November 2021. Moderators need to use these materials for training and professional learning. Further materials will be added in the 2022/23 academic year. The 2018/19 and 2019/20 standardisation training materials will also be available for use if required. LBE will use these materials to support the delivery of moderator training.

LBE arrangements for tests will be shared on the HUB in November 2021.

Standardisation and training timeline

Activities	Dates
Moderation managers and lead moderators to complete KS1 and KS2 standardisation exercise 1.	29 November to 3 December 2021
LAs to return exercise 1 moderator responses to STA.	29 November to 9 December 2021

Exercise 1 commentaries available on the PAG.	10 December 2021
Pool moderators (and any moderation managers and lead moderators who did not successfully complete exercise 1) to complete standardisation exercise 2.	24 January to 28 January 2022
Exercise 2 commentaries available on the PAG.	4 February 2022
LAs to return names of successful moderators to STA (exercise 2).	4 February to 18 February 2022
Unsuccessful pool moderators to complete standardisation exercise 3.	28 February to 4 March 2022
Exercise 3 commentaries available on the PAG.	11 March 2022
LAs return names of successful moderators to STA (exercise 3).	11 March to 25 March 2022

STA to share KS1 and KS2 blank approval to moderate certificates with LAs for 2021/22 test cycle.   28 March 2022