

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT



Spotlight on Assessment

How can we gather personal development data for our pupils...

Assisting children with personal development is crucial as it nurtures emotional resilience, healthy relationships and essential life skills. It empowers them to face life's challenges, make informed choices, and become well-rounded individuals who contribute positively to society, setting the foundation for a fulfilling and successful future. However, assessing children's personal development in primary schools can be more challenging and involves evaluating various aspects of their emotional, social, and moral growth.



It's important to remember that personal development is multifaceted and not solely reliant on quantitative measures. A holistic approach that combines various assessment methods, including qualitative observations and self-reflection, provides a more comprehensive view of a child's personal growth in primary school.

Here are some methods and approaches that we use at St. Aloysius:

- 1. OBSERVATIONS:** Teachers observe pupils' behaviour and interactions in the classroom, during playtime, and in group activities. This provides insight into their social skills, empathy and cooperation.
- 2. SELF-ASSESSMENT:** Encourage pupils to reflect on their personal development. They can keep journals, write reflections, or participate in self-assessment exercises to assess their emotional well-being and character development.
- 3. PEER ASSESSMENT:** Peer evaluations can be used constructively. Classmates can provide feedback on each other's teamwork, communication and problem-solving skills.
- 4. CHECKLISTS AND RUBRICS:** Develop checklists or rubrics that outline specific personal development goals and behaviours. Teachers can use these tools to assess and track progress.
- 5. PROJECTS AND PRESENTATIONS:** Assign projects or presentations that require pupils to collaborate, express empathy, or demonstrate leadership. Evaluate their performance based on these criteria.
- 6. BEHAVIOURAL RECORDS:** Maintain records of behavioural incidents and resolutions, which can help identify patterns and improvements in personal development.
- 7. FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT:** Incorporate personal development goals into formative assessments, such as class discussions or group activities, and provide feedback on pupils' progress.
- 8. SURVEYS AND QUESTIONNAIRES:** Administer age-appropriate surveys or questionnaires to gather pupils' perceptions of their personal development and well-being.
- 9. PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT:** Have pupils create portfolios that showcase their personal development journey, including examples of their growth in areas like communication, resilience, and responsibility
- 10. STANDARDISED ASSESSMENTS:** Some standardised assessments include sections that evaluate social and emotional skills, providing quantitative data on personal development.

