

Advisory from QCDA (03.11.09)

'Ministers have accepted in full our report on the national curriculum revised level descriptions for Key Stages 1 and 2. The recent public consultation around primary curriculum reforms provided an opportunity to review the subject level descriptions across all levels to bring them in line with changes to the primary and secondary curriculum. To read the report and revised descriptions, visit www.qcda.gov.uk/22260.aspx.'

These proposed new level adjustments form part of the planned new primary curriculum due to come into effect from September 2011. These new changes only concern Levels 1-3 as Levels 4 upwards have already been revised with the introduction of the new curriculum at KS3.

While not all subjects have had adjustments to Levels 1-3, some, like geography, have undergone slight changes. In addition, new levels have been introduced for MFL and Citizenship which are planned to be statutory from 2011. The rationale for these changes is to ensure a coherent continuum of levels for all teachers to draw on to suit their pupils' needs, no matter what their key stage.

The role of geography level descriptions will continue to be one that supports teachers' planning and assessment, their professional judgements about progression and content and high achievement of learners. For more information about progression and assessment in primary geography read the Spring 2008 issue of *Primary Geographer*: www.geography.org.uk/Journals/Journals.asp?issueID=35