Guidance

Target Setting for Primary Schools

FFT aspire

V1.0

November 2022

Overview

FFT's new Target Setting module represents the next generation Aspire – with multiple estimate options, daily estimate generation, automatic updates to pupil information and new reports that make it easier than ever to set targets for your pupils. It provides you with a thorough analysis of your school, subject and pupil estimates & targets. For the first time, you can now also analyse estimate information by classes! This guidance document will take you through all the key features and reports within your new Aspire Target Setting dashboards.

Important – before you get started

Please read through the guidance document before starting to use the system and in particular, the following points:

1. To access and make full use of Target Setting, your school will need an active Aspire Data Exchange connection and you will need to have accepted the latest data sharing agreement. For more information about connecting your MIS to FFT Aspire, visit page 4.
2. If anyone who requires access does not have an account, your FFT Administrator can set them up in Aspire. Full pupil level access will be required to view the Target Setting reports.
3. The first release will feature your Multiple Subject report, and this is the one that you need to enter your targets into. We will then roll out aggregated school reports in your new School Dashboard.
4. For KS1 pupils who have missing FFT estimates, we will be running another missing estimate service to fill these gaps soon. In the meantime, you can still add your targets.
5. Export of estimates and targets is a feature that is coming soon and at that time, we'll update the guidance to show you how your administrators can do this.

Further help, support and feedback

If you need any help, support or advice then please contact our Support Team. We can take you through processes or help with any individual issues. We have developed new Target Setting in consultation with schools and based on customer feedback. We're already planning additional features and improvements, which we'll roll out more frequently. If you have any feedback or suggestions, then please get in touch with our Support Team.

FFT Support
Our support team are available:
Mon - Thur 8.30am - 5.30pm I Fri 8.30am - 5.00pm
Email: support@fft.org.uk
Tel: 01446 776 262 (option 2)
Twitter: @FFTSupport

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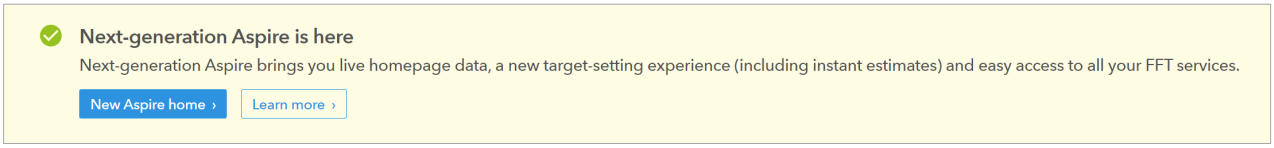
Accessing the reports

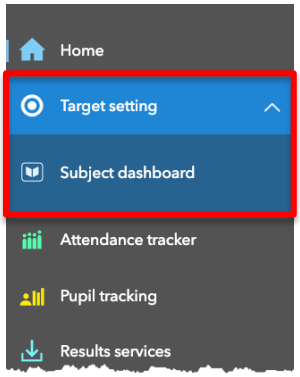
Log in to https://fftaspire.org using your regular Aspire account details. At the top of the homepage, you will see the following message. Click the **New Aspire home** to enter Next-generation Aspire:



New Navigation

The Aspire navigation menu is now located on the left-hand side of the homepage. Hover over the menu or use the expand icon to view it in full.

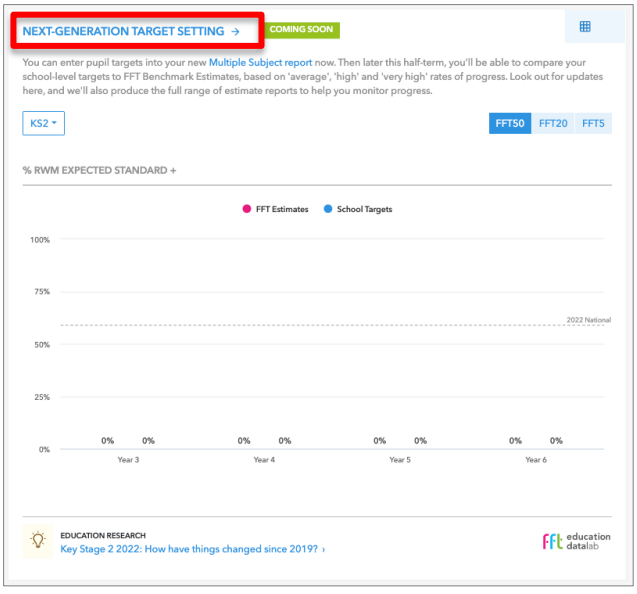
Click on **Target Setting** to collapse the sub menu. You are then able to select your Subject dashboard.



New Home screen

Towards the right-hand side of the new homepage, you will see your school's **Targets and Estimates** tile. Soon, this will provide you with a quick Target Setting overview for each year group, within key stage 2 and key stage 1.

For one-click access straight through to your **Multiple Subject report**, click NEXT GENERATION TARGET SETTING from within the tile.



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Aspire Data Exchange (ADX) connection.

In order to access and make full use of the Target Setting reports, your school needs to have an active Aspire Data Exchange connection. This will connect your school's MIS to FFT Aspire.

If you're not connected, this status will be displayed towards the top right of the new Aspire homepage or within next-generation Target Setting. Your school FFT administrator would then need to set up Data Exchange.

For more information on how to set up, visit this article: https://help.fft.org.uk/articles/data-exchange-setup/.

Target Setting Reporting

Prior Attainment models

With no national KS2 assessments in 2020 & 2021, your year 4 & 5 cohorts were left without prior attainment upon which to base estimates. Whilst some schools would have taken part in Results Services or the Missing Estimates Service, we recognise that for others, there will be gaps. We have therefore, given schools the opportunity to select from two prior attainment options for their key stage 2 pupils – KS1 & EYFS.

Missing prior attainment in KS1

Your year 1 and possibly year 2 cohorts will be missing prior attainment information, and therefore no FFT benchmark estimates are available for these pupils. We will run another Missing Estimate Service to fill these gaps soon. In the meantime, you can still add your targets for any pupil in KS1.

Year group	Available prior attainment models
1	• No data available
2	• EYFS data from FFT Results Service/ Missing Estimate service
3	• KS1 2022 data **(default)** • EYFS data from FFT Results Service/ Missing Estimate service
4	• EYFS data **(default)** • KS1 data from FFT Results Service/ Missing Estimate service
5	• EYFS data **(default)** • KS1 data from FFT Results Service/ Missing Estimate service

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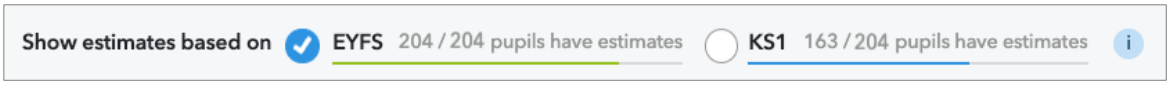
6	• KS1 data **(default)** • EYFS data

The **default models** identified above for each year group are those that you will most likely have benchmarks estimates for. To switch between models, simply select from the **Show estimates based on** options, as seen below:

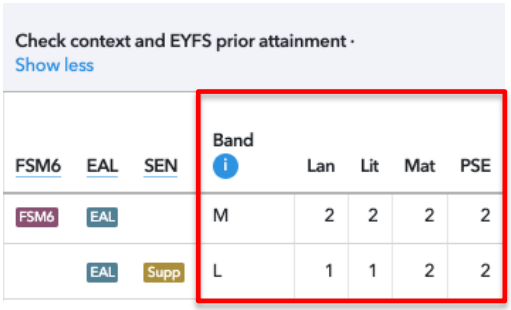


For each estimate model, you can view the **number of pupils with estimates** out of the total number of pupils. This will support the decision about which model your school should use.

Prior attainment bands

HML based on EYFS - Describes where a pupil's EYFS outcomes ranked nationally:

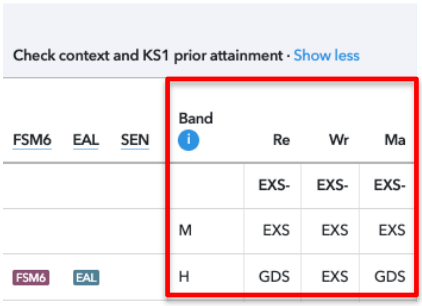
H Highest third
M Middle third
L Lower third



Those EYFS outcomes are based on the average of all 17 early learning goals (total score divided by 17). The thresholds for the bands do change slightly each year, and the thresholds split pupils into higher, middle and lower bands. They are bands, not equal thirds, because the data is not fine enough. Pupils with fewer than 17 assessments are not given a band.

HML based on KS1 - Describes where a pupil's KS1 outcomes ranked nationally:

H Highest third
M Middle third
L Lower third



Key data concepts

Aspire Target Setting is based around three pieces of data analysis: FFT Benchmarks, Targets and Difference.

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FFT Benchmarks estimates

These are aspirational end-of-key stage estimates based on the outcomes of schools ranked 50th, 20th or 5th for progress. They are calculated from the results of similar pupils nationally at schools from the maintained sector ranked 50th, 20th or 5th and are calculated for any pupil with attainment in the previous key stage. The lower the rank, the higher the comparative level of challenge it would take for schools to achieve similar results.

Our estimates are generated each day as you log in to FFT Aspire and click on your Target Setting reports. So, they are always up to date based on the students in school that day. When you first click on your target setting reports, you will see the system generating estimates for KS1, KS2 and CAT4, depending on what datasets are available for each year group.

For more information about FFT benchmarks and how they are calculated, read our blog from FFT Education Datalab here: https://ffteducationdatalab.org.uk/2022/11/a-quick-overview-of-fft-estimates-for-primary-schools/

Targets

Targets are entered by your school into the **Multiple Subject report**, based on pupils' FFT benchmark estimates, the context information provided, as well as a teacher's own knowledge of the pupil. Targets can be set using + or – and should be based on the end of the key stage.

Once targets have been entered for all pupils, you can immediately see aggregations in the chart - up to cohort, class or pupil group level. Make sure you save your targets so that we're able to add them to the new aggregated School Dashboard reports that will follow on from the Multiple Subject report.

Difference

Difference to is simply the target scaled score subtracted from the scaled score benchmark estimate. It gives indication of how far above or below the benchmark a pupil, class or cohort could be if they achieve the targets set.

It is <u>important</u> to note: where the school sets a target grade that is the same as a pupil's estimate, this may result in a scale score difference above or below, rather than 0 (*see the example to the right). This is because the ranges behind the estimates are different to those scaled scores allocated to a target. The estimate conversion is much more refined, given that it is based on a pupil's chances information, prior attainment, month of birth and gender.

MATHEMATICS

Estimate (FFT50)	Scaled Score	Target ↓	Diff
EXS-	104	EXS-	-1
EXS-	100	EXS-	3
GDS	111	GDS	2

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Difference indicators

To support your analysis, the difference columns within the reports, may include the following colour indicators:

- The target is >=4 points/ percent **above** the benchmark estimate.
- The target is 2 to 3.9 points/ percent **above** the benchmark estimate.
- The target is 1 to 1.9 points/ percent **above** the benchmark estimate.
- The target is -1 to -1.9 points/ percent **below** the benchmark estimate.
- The target is -2 to -3.9 points/ percent **below** the benchmark estimate.
- The target is <= -4 points/ percent **below** the benchmark estimate.

Filters

Each report is fully customisable through an extended range of filters. Filters can be used to analyse estimates for specific subjects & indicators, or to select particular year groups, teaching groups, and pupil groups. There are a number of filters that appear throughout the reports, each of which is detailed below:

Filter Category	Filter name	More information
SUBJECTS & INDICATORS	Key Stage	KS2 & KS1 reports are currently available. KS1
	Subjects	• KS2: Reading, Writing, Maths & GPS • KS1: Reading, Writing, Maths
	Indicator	• KS2: % National standard (or higher), % Above national, Average Scaled Score • KS1: % National standard (or higher), % Above national
YEARS & GROUPS	Year groups	Select all, individual or multiple year groups within the key stage
	Classes	These represent classes in your school as they appear in your school MIS. To reduce this list, filter by year group first.
PUPIL CONTEXT FILTERS	Gender	Male, Female
	FSM	FSM6, Not FSM6
	SEN	SEN Support, EHCP, Not SEND

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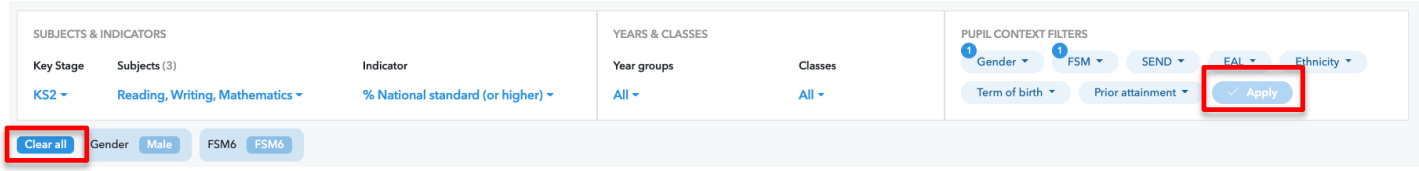
	EAL	First Language not English, First Language English, No First Language Data
	Ethnicity	Extended DfE ethnicity groups are now available in Aspire: White, White Irish, Traveller of Irish heritage, Any other white background, Gypsy/ Roma, White & Black Caribbean, White & Black African, White & Asian, Any other mixed background, Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Other Asian, Black Caribbean, Black African, Any other black background, Chinese, Any other ethnic group, Information not yet obtained
	Term of Birth	Autumn Term, spring Term, Summer Term
	Prior Attainment	Higher attainers, Middle attainers, Lower attainers (note: these groupings will depend on the estimate type selected)

Note: Once the Pupil Context filters have been selected, you must click the Apply button. Filters will be persisted within the report until removed by clicking on Clear all. Alternatively, you can deselect one or more filters at a time, but must ensure that you Apply these changes within the Pupil Context filters box.



Sorting

As well as filtering pupil groups, you are also able to sort them within the table, in order to bring those pupils with similar characteristics together (FSM6, EAL, SEN, gender, year group) and focus in on their estimates & targets. Look for the sort symbol within the pupil details and context sections of the pupils table. Click it once for ascending order and again for descending.

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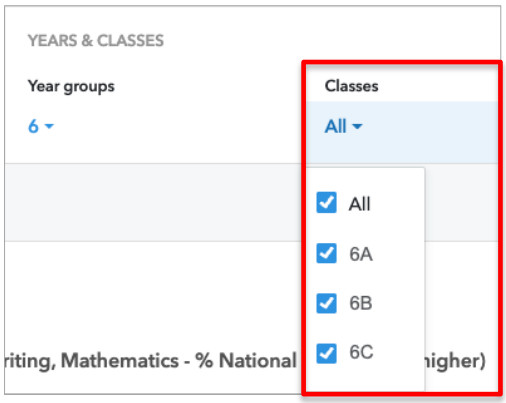
Classes

Your classes have been taken directly from your school's MIS and FFT have used exactly the same naming conventions, so that they can be instantly recognised.

In order for pupils to appear within your Target Setting reports, they must be assigned to a class. If there are students that have not been assigned, this needs to be addressed within the school's MIS. Once rectified, we will process any changes nightly and they will appear in the reports the very next day. The same process must be followed if pupils are not in the correct classes.



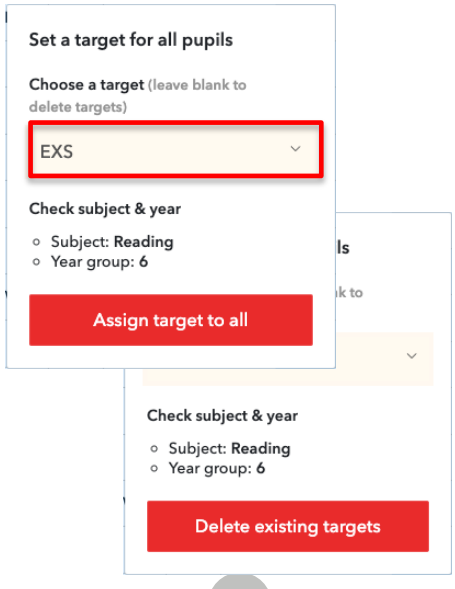
Setting targets and flood fill

Targets are set in the Multiple Subjects report and you can do this for up to 3 subjects at once. We advise that you filter by year group and teaching group first.

Within the **Set targets** section of the pupils table, you will see a **Target** column for each subject. Click on the dropdowns to select a target grade for each pupil. You can set targets for pupils irrespective of whether they have an FFT estimate.

Alternatively, you can **flood fill** the targets at a specific grade by clicking on the downward arrow next to the column header.

You simply need to select the flood fill grade and click **Assign target to all**. If you are assigning the grade to multiple year groups, a prompt will appear asking if you are sure and you will need to tick the confirmation box in order to proceed. You will then be able to review and amend those targets that need to change.



Note: as the default, all pupils are selected in the pupils table. But you can untick pupils and only assign targets to those selected.

Important: Don't forget to click **Save targets** once they have all been entered.

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Deleting targets

You can quickly delete all targets using flood fill. Rather than selecting a grade, you just need to leave **Choose a target** blank and then click **Delete existing targets**. Again, if you're doing this for multiple year groups, you will be prompted to click the confirmation box before deleting.

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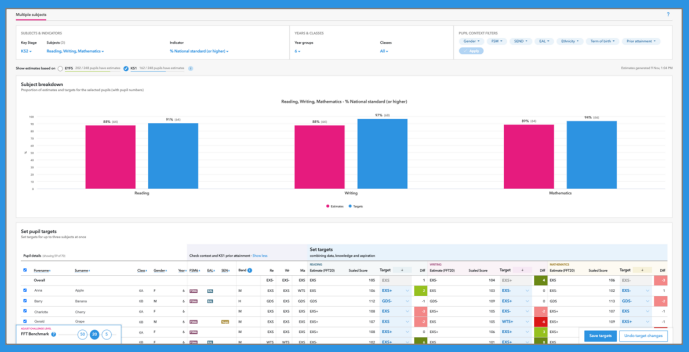
What reports are currently available?

Click the link under the report thumbnail below to view the associated help guide.

Subject dashboard

Multiple subjects report



https://help.fft.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/target-setting-multiple-subjects-ks2.pdf

Single subject report

Coming next

Featuring pupil chances information

School dashboard

Pupil overview

Coming next

Featuring combined measures

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Further guidance

If you have any queries or would like to speak with a Support Team member about Aspire Target Setting, then please contact us on 01446 776 262 (option 2), or you can send an email to support@fft.org.uk

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