depthoflearning

User Guide

Pebbles

The tiny steps towards a milestone
1. Introduction

Welcome to tracking Pebbles on DepthofLearning, we are delighted you have chosen this addition to the tracking system.

Pebbles was written as a ‘catch up’ programme for pupils who are not milestone ready. Pupils who benefit from it most are those with moderate learning difficulties and who have significant gaps in their knowledge and skills compared to other pupils in the same year group.

By solely focusing on Pebbles, pupils over learn the key things they need to enable them to access the milestones within the Essentials Curriculum.

Pebbles should be seen as a stand alone programme for each curriculum subject. It is not intended that pupils study some things from Essentials and some things from Pebbles within a particular subject. This is because it is necessary to move through the curriculum without attainment ‘spikes’ or ‘deficits’, which ultimately leads to a shaky understanding of the subject being studied. We strongly recommend, therefore, that schools decide whether the Essentials Curriculum, or the Pebbles Curriculum is most appropriate for pupils and that they are not mixed within a subject. It is possible however, for a pupil to be working from the Essentials Curriculum in maths for example and from the Pebbles Curriculum in reading.

In the DoL system, pupils can be tracked according to whether they are following the Essentials Curriculum or the Pebbles Curriculum or a particular subject.
2. Set up

For pupils to be tracked in Pebbles they need to be assigned as a **Pebbles** pupil through the Set up tab (This tab is only visible to Administrators).

On this page you will see a list on the left hand side titled ‘**Attributes**’. Some of the Attributes are pre-populated with the data from your CTF file, i.e. Pupil’s date of birth or type of Special Educational needs.

To assign a pupil to the Pebbles curriculum, click on **Pupils > Pebbles: Subject > Year Group > View Pupils** and select from the drop down list.

There are two options when assigning pupils to Pebbles:
1. Simply choose ‘Yes’
2. A time frame can be set i.e. Until Yr 3, Term 3.

A time frame can be used when a child has been set a ‘target’ to reach a milestone. Alternatively the time frame can be changed retrospectively if a pupil progresses from **Pebbles to Milestones**. When a pupil comes off the Pebbles curriculum – please do not set the Pebbles attribute to “No”, rather than the time frame i.e. Until Year 3, Term 3. If you select No, Pebbles data will be wiped, as the system thinks they were never on Pebbles.

A ‘live’ Pebbles pupil has a red P symbol against their name.

A pupil who was previously on Pebbles has a grey P.

**Please note:** Default value is No (Never) so only Pebbles pupils need to be assigned.

Hover over (or click on a tablet) the ‘P’ to see time frame as above.
3. Track

Tracking Pebbles pupils differs to Essentials tracking. Pebbles tracks pupils fluency rather than cognitive understanding of Basic, Advancing and Deep. To assess a Pebbles pupil’s fluency in Milestone 1, start the pupil on Pebble 1 and select his or her fluency: ‘Requires heavy support’, ‘Becoming fluent’ or ‘Fluent’. This will generate a Pebbles Index of 0.1, 0.2 or 0.3. Once fluency has been reached, move the pupil to Pebble 2 and track his or her fluency. Once Pebble 3, fluency has been reached and the pupil would normally begin the Essentials Curriculum.

How to enter Assessment Data:

First, select the **Subject**, **Year Group**, **Term** and **Pupil(s)** you wish to assess.

For each assessment area, click on the appropriate stage of fluency in the assessment bar graph. This will create a bar graph summarising how well a pupil is performing in each assessment area.

**Please note:** The white dot at the end of the bar appears to indicate the data has been saved.
**Ongoing record keeping**

Ongoing record keeping in the Pebbles tracker enables you to track progress for each indicator within an assessment area.

As a pupil progresses through the Pebbles, tracking would start from the top left radio button for Pebble 4, 0.1, and progress to bottom right radio button for Pebble 6, 0.9.

By hovering over the radio button a reminder prompt appears (green box).

A Milestone 1 pupil can progress through Pebbles 1, 2 and 3. (0.1-0.9)

A Milestone 2 pupil can progress through Pebbles 4, 5 and 6. (The example shown) (0.1-0.9)

A Milestone 3 pupil can progress through Pebbles 7, 8 and 9. (0.1-0.9)

To make an assessment at the end of term, click on the blue box at the bottom of the pop up box, this will automatically move the bar on initial tracking screen.

**Please note:** There is no ‘formula’ for deciding which score to give a pupil. Choose a score that best represents a pupil’s overall attainment.
4. Targets
You may set learning targets for Pebbles pupils. Rather than setting a depth target, as you would with Essentials, users may manually enter any targets they wish to set.

Select the **Subject**, **Year Group** and **Term** on the left hand side. Choose the pupil(s) for whom you wish to set a target, then select the appropriate Learning Objective.

You may only set a maximum of three targets per child for each Learning Objective.

There is a link at the bottom of the Target page which will take you back to the Tracking page.

**Please note:** Tick the blue box to apply the target to the pupil.
5. Reports

Find out how the system reports attainment and progress for a pupil following the Pebbles Curriculum.

**Subject Dashboard**

On the Subject Dashboard Report, a Pebbles pupil will appear in the B column. This is because they are working on an alternative curriculum so are below the expected age-related standards. Please note pupils who are working below the age appropriate Milestone also appear in this column.

**Please note:** Pebbles pupils do **not** appear on the following reports:

5. Reports

Individual Report
An Individual report shows the pupil’s EYFS Exit, current DoL index, and the pupil’s progress. There is no forecast for the end of Milestone for a pupil following the Pebbles curriculum. This is because any progress is good and there is no set target for progress for these pupils.

Reports can be printed by selecting the printer icon in the top right hand corner of the screen.
(Please note ‘background images’ must be set to visible in order for the coloured bars to print)
**Group Report**

A Pebbles pupil is indicated on the Group Report by the relevant coloured P symbol. Each Learning Objective shows the pupil’s current Pebble and fluency and is displayed as, for example, P6/0.9.

Both EYFS exit and Progress can be sorted using the arrows at the top of each column.
Year Group Report

The Year Group Report shows a pupil’s progress throughout the year, their cumulative DoL index and their forecast for the end of the Milestone. The Year Group Report is split into a Pebbles row and an Essentials row, so that if a pupil progresses from the Pebbles Curriculum to the Essentials Curriculum it is visible.

The data is also summarised in percentages for Attainment and Progress at the bottom of the report.