Quick Start Grid Choices

Educater is a very powerful system which can be customised to meet a massive range of school's requirements. However, there are default grids* built into the system which offer a quick start to using our system in well-established, common assessment formats. We also have the option of customisable grids.

The three basic grids on offer represent three essentially different approaches to assessment and it is important that your choice reflects the philosophies and practices within your school.

Educater 1 (Teacher Judgement)

Children are judged by the teacher against a series of descriptive statements which encompass special needs and greater depth as well. Star Count** in this grid is entirely optional. Schools may choose to track the achievement against the curriculum objectives for monitoring purposes, but the assessment system does not require it.

Educater 2 (Two-dimensional depth)

This grid also uses Star Count**. It uses a two-dimensional depth model which assumes that depth is an additional feature of learning which exists at all stages of learning. Therefore, a child can be a greater depth learner all year round, September and July alike.

Educater 3 (Linear Depth)

This grid uses Star Count**. It uses a linear depth model which assumes depth of learning as a step beyond other secure achievement. Therefore, depth is achieved only later in the term/ year after all learning has taken place.

External Tests

When external testing materials are used and scores are calculated accordingly, these can be entered directly into Educater. It does not require stars or sign off grids to be used and it can generate analysis reports of its own. You may be using external tests as well as teacher assessment and these can all be recorded on the system.

A Grid contains all elements of the assessment in the system, including the content, and is set for a specific assessment methodology.

**Star Count is where a teacher marks off the individual objectives in the curriculum for each child, showing the degree to which the objective is secure.*

Mixed Models

It is not uncommon for schools to use different assessment models for different curriculum areas, most notably splitting foundation subjects from core subjects. For example, a school may choose to use a star count model (Educater 2 or 3) for core subjects (e.g. Reading, Writing and Maths), whilst using Educater 1 (Teacher Judgement) for Foundation Subjects (e.g. Geography, History, Music etc.)
External testing can be used either alone or with any combination of the other grids. If an Educater grid is also used, then reports can be produced showing both data sets together.

Grid Comparisons

	Educater 1	Educater 2	Educater 3
Requires stars recorded against objectives in the curriculum	✖	✔	✔
Uses numbered steps represented as codes	✖	✔	✔
Assessment based entirely on Teacher Judgement	✔	✖	✖
Depth is measured and assumed to be a linear step forward in attainment	✖	✖	✔
Depth can be added and is a separate judgement made by the teacher	✖	✔	✖