





Using baseline assessments to get insight into students' minds

Nahar International School, Mumbai, opened in 2014 with the mission to provide an inclusive, intellectually stimulating but also an emotionally caring environment that allows children to explore their full potential.

The school provides a complete Cambridge International Programme from Cambridge Early Years to Cambridge Advanced, with students working towards Cambridge IGCSEs and Cambridge International AS & A Levels. The school is also a Cambridge Professional Development Qualifications Centre which offers a Certificate in Teaching and Learning and Educational Leadership.

Principal, Vandana Arora, explains their reasons for introducing Cambridge Insight assessments as a way of gaining a better understanding of students' learning needs.

Understanding student potential

Nahar International School had a clear purpose in seeking externally validated assessments.

'We already had a lot of assessment data in the school, for example from in-class observations, internal assessments, prior attainment and so on. But we felt that we didn't know enough about the full range of students' ability, or how we might help them reach their maximum potential.

'We liked Cambridge Insight assessments because they aren't knowledge-based, you don't have to prepare the students for it, and when we examined the reports, we saw how they could help us understand our students' true potential.

'The Cambridge Insight assessments showed us a completely new angle to the way the students learn in a way we had never seen before.'

We looked at many assessments until we found Cambridge Insight. We liked the fact that Cambridge Insight is part of Cambridge, so it fits well with all of our programmes, and that the assessments were research-based and used extensively in the UK and around the world.



Nahar International School, Mumbai

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Insight for teachers and parents

Cambridge Insight assessments have helped Nahar International School gain a deeper understanding of student needs, as well as identifying patterns and trends, Vandana explains.

'Cambridge Insight assessments give us externally validated, objective predictions and indications for the reasons behind students' performance levels, which has really helped teachers validate their own opinions. It has also helped them to ask questions about how they can help the students reach where they should be and get parents involved in supporting the whole child.

 These assessments really help teachers and parents come together on one page.
It has helped the teachers to have conversations with the parents to identify any gaps between the potential and the real performance of students.



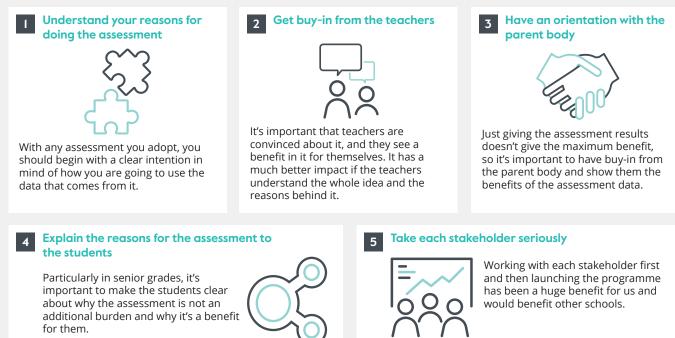
Whole school improvement

With this kind of data, we can see trends and patterns and start identifying where the gaps are, why the gaps are there, what are the barriers and constraints which are there and which areas do we need to improve, so it all feeds into the whole school improvement plan.

'The Cambridge Insight assessment data and reports have given us insight for both teachers and parents alike. Cambridge Insight has given us authentic data which helped us understand more about each student and the factors that play a part in their achievement.'



Vandana's top tips on how Cambridge Insight assessments can be introduced in your school



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