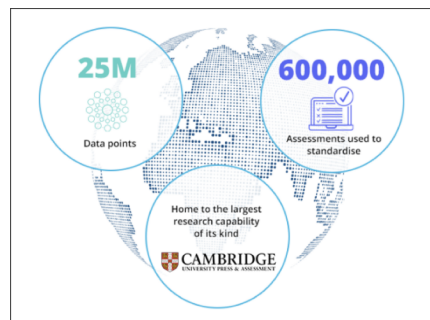


HeadteacherChat's Review of Cambridge Centre for Evaluation and Monitoring (CEM) Read the full review below...

How does Cambridge CEM describe their product?

Cambridge CEM's baseline assessments, wellbeing check, and entrance assessments help schools unlock every student's potential. Our flagship adaptive baseline assessments measure across six key developmental areas, so you get invaluable insight in an instant. We help teachers see children's strengths and weaknesses, reveal their hidden talents, and spot where they need help.

With over 40 years' experience, our assessments complement your experience and intuition, helping to set your students up for the brightest possible future. Use our reporting to turn data into actionable insights, supporting your decision-making and professional judgement, so you can focus on transforming the outcomes of the students you teach.



Our assessments make it easy for teachers and school leaders to measure their students' ability levels and create evidence-based development and early intervention plans quickly and accurately. With classroom research at the heart of our products, we continue to develop each assessment to accurately measure students' abilities and progress.

A white paper published in March 2022 by the DfE titled *Opportunity for all: Strong schools with great teachers for your child* states that:

"The best schools use robust, reliable assessment to identify children who need extra help, and offer targeted, evidence-based support to these children. We will make this an expectation across England. All schools should monitor pupil's progress in English and maths using robust assessment. They should have a system for responding to what this

shows – both in terms of adjustments to classroom practice and providing additional support for children who need it. This should be drawn from the growing evidence base of effective support approaches.”

Our assessments help schools offer this targeted, evidence-based assessment approach for their students. Our assessments also support the Parent Pledge that states “that your school will provide evidence-based support if your child falls behind in English or maths and tell you about their progress.” We offer parent reports for our assessments that can be used to inform parents of their child’s ability and progress.

What does it enable you to do?

Using *Cambridge CEM* (a not-for-profit organisation) allows schools to administer baseline, diagnostic and entrance assessments that are produced by the University of Cambridge, whose reputation in educational research is known and recognised worldwide. This expertise has driven the huge amount of research used to create the assessments. *Cambridge CEM* believe that their assessments are ‘More than just a test’, as teachers can use the results to assess, analyse, plan, teach, reflect and support individual children. The questions are not mapped to any particular curriculum or scheme of work, instead 6 developmental areas are examined. The assessments take approximately 20 minutes each. They are completed online and require no marking from the teacher, thus saving valuable time, and results are provided quickly. The tests can be administered at any point in the year and progress can be measured year on year.

A key feature of the assessments is that they are adaptive, so that when a question is answered, subsequent questions are carefully chosen depending on the response given. Children spend less time on questions that are too easy or difficult for them. This makes the assessment not only more relevant and interesting for the student, but the feedback is far more useful for teachers.

Once completed, teachers can access individual reports for children, cohort reports to compare classes or across the academies in a MAT and some can be compared with similar schools nationally. The assessments are used both in the UK and internationally, creating a vast sample size and quantity of data, which *Cambridge CEM* use to standardise results.

The Cambridge Wellbeing Check

This can be administered multiple times during the year to give an insight into children's wellbeing at key points throughout the year, for example, at the start/end of a school year, during exams etc. The reports are easy to use, allowing staff to monitor and evaluate wellbeing at an individual, class or whole school level. *Cambridge CEM* provides follow-up lessons that can easily be integrated into the school curriculum to support students in specific areas.



Benefits of using *Cambridge CEM*?

- Our assessments are adaptive, meaning they are quicker and more personalised
- We predict to GCSEs and A Level exams, giving schools a better idea of how their students will perform and allowing them to plan early intervention for improvement
- All courses are delivered online and results are delivered instantly so teachers don't have to mark
- Assessments are curriculum independent so align with any curriculum in any school, anywhere



Testimonials:

“We use CEM’s ASPECTS and BASE with our pupils in Nursery and Reception, and then we use InCAS with all pupils each year in Years 1 to 6. It’s so easy to use InCAS and it gives us information about the pupils that we can use for planning and learning, and it supports both teachers and leadership. Getting an objective picture can really help to inform the next steps as well as to have conversations with the parents.”

Thomas Armstrong, Year 6 Classroom Teacher and Head of Data and Assessments,
Moor Allerton Preparatory School

“We find the MidYIS assessment data useful in two main ways: as a cohort analysis tool, looking at predictions, trends and analysing the value-added, as well as using the data in a more nuanced way as part of the overall narrative around each student to identify learning needs and monitor performance.”

Christine Young, Head of Learning Support at Ibstock Place School

Find out more:**Introduction to Cambridge CEM**

https://player.vimeo.com/video/322776352?app_id=122963

In summary, HeadteacherChat recommends *Cambridge CEM* because:

‘Cambridge CEM have produced high quality, easy to administer assessments which are adaptive to your setting and curriculum, making the process more personalised and efficient. The data can help schools gain a better understanding of their students' capabilities, which in turn enables them to plan for early interventions to improve outcomes.’ Lucy Coy, CEO. February 2023