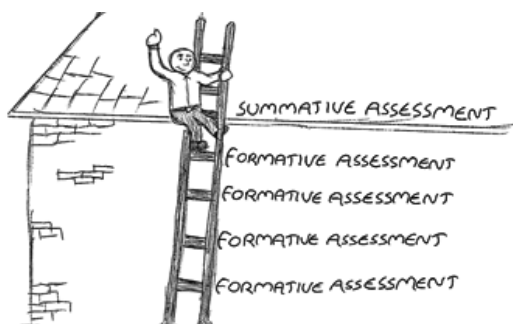




## Assessment for Learning: A Brief Guide



Assessment is a core element of effective teaching and learning

*“Assessment in education is about gathering, interpreting and using information about the processes and outcomes of learning”. “It takes different forms and can be used in a variety of ways...”* Assessment in the Primary School Curriculum – Guidelines for Schools. NCCA 2007 p.7

Teachers use assessment information to **identify the learning needs of our students and adjust our teaching accordingly.**

There are **three approaches** which all support student achievement:

- **Assessment of learning** (summative assessment)
- **Assessment for learning** (formative assessment)
- **Assessment as learning** (whereby when students are their own assessors, monitoring their own learning using various strategies).

**What is difference between Assessment OF learning (Summative Assessment) and Assessment FOR learning (Formative Assessment)?**

*Both approaches form an integral part of teaching and learning!*

Assessment <b>OF</b> Learning (Summative)	Assessment <b>FOR</b> Learning (Formative)
Happens after learning takes place	An integral part of learning process
Information is gathered by teacher	Information is shared with learner
Information is usually transferred into marks	Information is available on quality of learning
Comparison with performance of others	Is linked to learning outcomes and success criteria
Looks back on past learning	Looks forward to the next stage of learning

## **Important elements of AFL**

1. Using *Learning Outcomes* and *Success Criteria*.
2. Effective feedback.
3. Effective questioning.
4. Self assessment - students as owners of their own learning.
5. Peer Assessment - students acting as instructional resources for each other.