

PARENT GUIDE TO ASSESSMENT & REPORTING

Understanding Assessment & Reporting



Foothills School Division is committed to research based, ongoing quality assessment, evaluation, and reporting practices for the purpose of optimal student learning. Assessments guide teachers in adjusting instruction, monitoring student progress, providing effective feedback, and assessing for student learning. The main purpose of assessment is to improve student learning. Parents play an important role in their child's education; when parents, students and educators work together, students are successful!

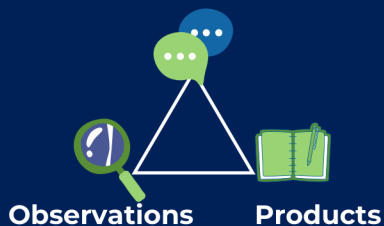
What is Assessment?

Assessment is the process of gathering information about what a student knows, understands, and can do, in relation to learning outcomes. All assessments are criterion-referenced, meaning student performances are not compared to one another, student performances are compared to the learner outcomes as set by the Ministry of Education in the Alberta Programs of Study (grade 7 -12) and Alberta Curriculum (grade K to 6).



Multiple Modes of Assessment

Conversations



Teachers gather a collection of evidence that includes more than products such as essays and written exams. A well-rounded collection of evidence includes observing students while they demonstrate skills or engaging them in conversation to reveal their understanding, in addition to product-based evidence of learning. This is called *triangulating evidence*.

What is reporting?

Reporting is the process of communicating achievement, progress, engagement, and behaviour. The FSD System of Reporting includes daily monitoring to check the progress of student learning against learning outcomes and success criteria and documenting learning through a collection of evidence. This aims to ensure parents have timely information about a student's areas of strength, growth, and next steps in learning.



Reporting Periods and Learner Profiles



The FSD annual reporting schedule for kindergarten to grade 12 includes:

- Two reporting periods
- Two Learner Conferences
- Two Learner Profiles

The Foothills School Division System of Reporting

Monitoring Learning

Teachers check the progress of learning against learning outcomes and success criteria DAILY through a variety of strategies: Observation, questioning, reflection, discussing learning with peers and teachers, and well-considered feedback to feed-forward the next steps in learning.

Meet the Teacher Conferences

Each family has an opportunity for individual time with the teacher to establish open communication, learn about the child, share learning goals, and develop a partnership approach to the year of learning.

Learner Conferences

Each family will receive an opportunity to review examples of student work that demonstrate areas of success, growth, and next steps.

Gradebook Updates

Parents will receive monthly emails reminding them to log in to their Edsembli account to stay updated on their child's learning progress. Parents are encouraged to log in regularly to keep up-to-date on student progress.

Documenting Learning

Teachers collect evidence of learning. Documentation can be physical or digital and can be displayed or recorded in a variety of media forms. Documentation of learning is shared with families to make learning visible and apparent. It reveals insights into learning and identifies areas of success, areas for growth, and next steps for students.

Progress Updates

Teachers will communicate about individual student progress to provide feedback. Parents will receive information on the progress of learning outcomes covered to date. Teachers may communicate through various formats including email, phone calls, portfolios, teacher-created progress reports etc.

Learner Profiles

Learner Profiles are published to share a level of achievement describing a student's progress toward, and achievement of, grade-level outcomes.

edsembli

bit.ly/FSD-Portal

- Registration
- School Fees
- Student Progress
- & More

Supporting Your Child's Learning

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[Graduation requirements, credentials and credits](#)

[Alberta's K to 6 Curriculum](#)

[Alberta's Programs of Study
Grade 7 to 12](#)



How are Grade Levels Determined?

Grades K to 6: Grades are levels of achievement in a 4-point system. Assignments are associated with Learner Outcomes, and each of these outcomes is graded. The outcomes are grouped within Organizing Ideas for the Learner Profile.

Grades 7 & 8: Grades are levels of achievement in a 5-point system. The additional level has been added for consistency with provincial junior high assessments (PATs). Assignments are associated with Learner Outcomes, and each of these outcomes is graded. The outcomes are grouped within Organizing Ideas for the Learner Profile.

Grades 9 to 12: Grades are expressed by percentage. Teachers will also provide descriptive, written feedback to improve learning. Percentage grades are calculated based on predetermined weightings found in the course outline.

GRADE LEVELS OF ACHIEVEMENT

Grades K - 6

Levels of Achievement are the scores teachers in grades K to 6 use to indicate a student's level of performance, in relation to the grade level outcomes in the Alberta Curriculum. This is a 4-point system.



Demonstrates limited achievement: Student demonstrates insufficient knowledge and skills in relation to the Alberta Curriculum as well as an incomplete understanding of the concepts.



Demonstrates satisfactory achievement: Student demonstrates sufficient knowledge and skills in relation to the Alberta Program of Studies as well as developing an understanding and application of the concepts.



Demonstrates proficient achievement: Student demonstrates adept knowledge and skills in relation to the Alberta Curriculum as well as a strong understanding and application of the concepts.



Demonstrates excellent achievement: Student demonstrates exemplary knowledge and skills in relation to the Alberta Curriculum as well as an in-depth understanding and insightful application of the concepts.

Grades 7 & 8

Levels of Achievement are the scores teachers in grades 7 and 8 use to indicate a student's level of performance, in relation to the grade level outcomes in the Alberta Curriculum. This is a 5-point system.



Not yet demonstrating understanding of the Alberta Program of Studies concepts.



Demonstrates limited achievement: Student demonstrates insufficient knowledge and skills in relation to the Alberta Program of Studies as well as an incomplete understanding of the concepts.



Demonstrates satisfactory achievement: Student demonstrates sufficient knowledge and skills in relation to the Alberta Program of Studies as well as developing an understanding and application of the concepts.



Demonstrates proficient achievement: Student demonstrates adept knowledge and skills in relation to the Alberta Program of Studies as well as a strong understanding and application of the concepts.



Demonstrates excellent achievement: Student demonstrates exemplary knowledge and skills in relation to the Alberta Program of Studies as well as an in-depth understanding and insightful application of the concepts.



Grades 9 - 12

Grade levels of achievement for students in grades 9 through 12 are percentage-based; however, teachers will communicate how these grades are determined for each class.