

Grades 1 to 3 Mandatory Literacy and Numeracy Screening Assessments Initiative

Parent/Guardian Question and Answer Sheet

What is the purpose of implementing mandatory literacy and numeracy screening assessments?

To ensure that all Grades 1 to 3 students have foundational literacy and numeracy skills, the Alberta government is announcing the mandatory implementation of literacy and numeracy screening assessments in the 2022-23 school year. This initiative builds on the important work school authorities across the province have been engaged in to address learning disruptions caused by the pandemic. These screening assessments will help school authorities efficiently identify and begin to support those students most in need of additional programming. These mandatory assessments will be phased in at schools across the province, beginning with Grades 2 and 3 students in September 2022, followed by Grade 1 students in January 2023. School authorities must reassess all at risk students again at the end of the school year to measure their progress.

These screening assessments are also available to Kindergarten and Grade 4 students to be administered at the discretion of each school authority.

Who is expected to participate in these screening assessments?

All students registered in grades 1 to 3 are expected to participate, with the following considerations:

1. Only a superintendent, on an individual basis, may excuse a student from participation, for the following reasons:
 - a. the student is unable to respond to the assessment due to behavioural, intellectual, learning, communication, or physical characteristics, or any combination of any of them, that impair the student's ability and opportunity to learn;
 - b. participation would be harmful to the student.
2. The principal, in consultation with the parent/guardian and the teacher, shall recommend to the superintendent that the student be excused from writing. A copy of the documentation in support of the recommendation, including the student's Individual Program Plan, if applicable, shall remain in the school.
3. A copy of the parent's letter indicating that the child will not be participating shall remain in the school.

Who will be administering the assessments?

The child's teacher or designate will be administering the assessments.

When and where will the assessments be administered?

The assessments will be administered in school during the regular school day.

What information is being collected and how will the information be used and disclosed?

School authorities will submit student assessment results to Alberta Education and to parents/guardians. Information from these assessments will provide critical information for school authorities to consider for their long-range planning and to inform classroom instruction.

Personal information is collected for the purpose of these assessments under the authority of section 33(c) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIP).

Whom can I contact if I have questions about the collection, use, and disclosure of personal information?

Questions or inquiries regarding the school's collection, use, and disclosure of personal information may be directed to your child's school division FOIP coordinator.

Questions or inquiries regarding Alberta Education's collection, use, and disclosure of personal information may be directed to:

Executive Director, Provincial Assessment
6th Floor, 10044 - 108 Street, 44 Capital Boulevard
Edmonton, AB T5J 5E6
Phone: 780-422-3282
(Dial 310-0000 to be connected toll-free from outside the Edmonton area.)