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 students have foundational literacy and numeracy skills, Alberta Education has implemented mandatory literacy and numeracy screening assessments for all students in grades 1 to 3. School authorities may use the government-provided assessments or make their selections from the Alberta Education approved <u>list</u>. This initiative builds on the important work school authorities across the province have 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 considered at-risk in literacy and numeracy and who are most in need of additional supports. School authorities must re-assess all identified 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?

The literacy and numeracy screening tools are mandatory for students in grades 1 to 3 to ensure students are receiving essential foundational learning in the critical early years of their education.

Who will be administering the assessments?

The child's teacher or designate will administer 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?

Teachers will collect student names, grade level, Alberta student numbers, and individual student responses. Results will be submitted to Alberta Education to help inform future policy and programming.

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).

How will the results be shared?

At the school level, results will be shared with parents/guardians at the discretion of school authorities.

Results from literacy and numeracy screening assessments are intended to help teachers identify and address gaps in their students' foundational understandings of literacy and numeracy. Teachers can use these results to guide their teaching throughout the year and inform students and parents/guardians about progress and learning. In addition, teachers can use the results to select appropriate resources and interventions to meet the needs of each student.

Results from school authorities will be shared in the Annual Education Results Report (AERR). Tracking these results will help Alberta Education, school authorities, and schools track successes and continuously improve the quality of education for students. The results will also support a transparent, accountable, and responsive education system.

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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 <u>LitNumScreening@gov.ab.ca</u>.

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