

School Assessment Plan 2024-2025

Kindergarten to Grade 9

September 2024

Garth Worthington School

351 Chappelle Drive SW, Edmonton, AB Postal Code

Phone: 589-489-4741

Email: garthworthington@epsb.ca

Website: garthworthington.epsb.ca

Principal: Dennis Kuchta

Updated: September 20, 2024

School Assessment Plan 2024–2025, Kindergarten to Grade 9

At Edmonton Public Schools, we're committed to enhancing pathways for student success. One of the ways we help enhance pathways for student success is by improving the way we assess and evaluate what students learn. We also want to improve how we report back to you about how your child is doing at school.

This guide will help you understand:

- responsibilities of staff, students and parents/guardians.
- how we will tell you about your child's progress and learning.
- how we assign grades/marks to your child.
- how your child is assessed.
- the steps we take if your child's work is missing or not finished.

What is assessment?

In this plan, we use the term assessment to describe the process of determining what students have learned, and how well they have learned it. Assessment is not just about tests and grades.

Assessment means gathering information about what your child knows, understands and is able to do based on the Alberta curriculum or their Individualized Program Plan (IPP). Teachers cannot base grades/marks on your child's behaviour, effort and work habits unless those behaviours are outlined in the Alberta Programs of Study for a specific subject.

Teachers can collect evidence of your child's learning in many different ways. Conversations, observations and student work are just some of the ways teachers determine students' strengths and where they might need extra help. These activities—conversations, observations and the products students create—help teachers shape their lesson plans. They guide *how* they can help every student meet their learning goals. The activities also help inform the teacher's understanding when making decisions about grade level of programming, course recommendations or grades/marks. The collection of a variety of evidence allows teachers to give you a clear and accurate picture of your child's progress in school.

How to support your child's learning

As a parent or guardian, you are your child's first teacher. So, understanding how your child is doing in school is important. Read this guide, and contact the school or make an appointment to see your child's teacher or principal if you have any questions.

Supporting Student Success

We all have a role to play in helping your child be successful.

You can support your child's learning by:

- working in partnership with school staff.
- providing a quiet place for your child to study at home.
- staying informed and keeping in touch with school staff. This includes reading information from SchoolZone, newsletters and other school materials.
- attending parent-teacher conferences.

Teachers will help your child succeed by:

- providing programming that is appropriate for your child.
- providing many opportunities and different ways for students to show what they know.
- giving students who have missed important assessments and activities the chance to complete the work.
- clearly explaining what is expected of students in all courses and how student work will be graded/marked (i.e., course outline).
- keeping detailed, accurate notes describing your child's successes and areas for growth.
- communicating with you regularly about your child's progress and achievement.
- providing opportunities for you to be involved in your child's learning.

Students have a responsibility for their own learning and are expected to:

- come to school every day on time.
- finish their assignments, projects and tasks to the best of their ability.
- participate in learning activities.
- regularly review what has been taught and ask for help when required.
- use opportunities to revise or retake assignments or tests to demonstrate growth in knowledge and skills.

Our Communication Plan for Reporting Progress

There are many ways we help you stay informed about your child's learning throughout the year. We encourage you to review your child's reports and attend conferences regularly.

Reporting Periods

Term 1: August 29, 2023 to December 6, 2024

Term 2: December 9, 2023 to March 21, 2025

Term 3: April 1 to June 25, 2025

Progress Reports Issued

December 6, 2024 – Progress Report Term 1 issued on SchoolZone (Kindergarten to Grade 9, including Div 3 Interactions)

March 21, 2025 – Progress Report Term 2 issued on SchoolZone (Kindergarten to Grade 9, including Div 3 Interactions)

June 25, 2025 – Progress Report Term 3 and Final Progress Report issued on SchoolZone (Kindergarten to Grade 9, including Div 3 Interactions)

We are minimizing the distribution of paper between home and school this year.

Progress Reports will be posted on SchoolZone by 3 pm on the Progress Report date. A reminder will be sent home in the Student Agenda during that week, as well as posted on SchoolZone. Parents must contact the school to have a hard-copy of their child's progress report printed and sent home.

Conferences

Schools must establish at least two formal parent-teacher conferences per school year.

Goal Setting Conferences (Parent - Teacher - Student): October 15-18, 2024, prior to the Term 1 Progress Report
Goal Setting Conferences occur in early Fall, to have the student, parents and teachers meet, identify student strengths and areas for growth and establish student goals and goal monitoring and check-in points, as well as revisit the goals during the school year.

Celebration of Learning (Parent - Teacher - Student) Conferences: scheduled during February 19-21, 2025 prior to the Term 2 Progress Report. Late evening will be Thursday, February 20, 2025.

Celebration of Learning conferences allow the student to demonstrate their learning to parents, sharing growth in their learning, examples of student work, as well as have a conference with the teachers on goal progress as well as revisit/refine the goals for further areas of growth, if necessary.

Individualized Program Plans (IPPs)

For students who need specialized services and supports, the IPP is a working document that is developed within the first two months of the school year. It is a record of your child's progress related to specific goals and strategies. It gives you confirmation that your child's needs are being addressed and provides information about accommodations and supports your child needs to succeed. The IPP is reviewed at least three times a year. We expect you and your child (as appropriate) to provide input into the IPP.

IPP planning conferences will take place in September / early October, 2024.

IPPs will be ready for review and signatures on the following dates:

- Initial IPP Created / Goals : by October 25, 2024
- Review 1: December 6, 2024
- Review 2: March 21, 2025
- Review 3 / Transition Planning: June 13, 2025

English as an Additional Language (EAL) Proficiency Assessments

For students learning English, EAL Proficiency Assessments measure English abilities in four areas: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Teachers use a variety of tools each year to help them plan lessons and communicate with you about your child's progress in learning English.

For students learning English, a summary of proficiency on the ESL Benchmarks will be sent home to parents and guardians. Parents are invited to meet with the teacher to discuss the proficiency benchmarks in more detail

Evaluating Student Achievement

To determine your child’s grade at the end of a reporting period, teachers use professional judgment based on evidence of what your child has learned.

At Garth Worthington School School, student grades/marks are reported using letter grades

Exemplary—A (80–100%)	Proficient—B (65–79%)	Adequate—C (50–64%)	Limited—D (0–49%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates extensive knowledge required to meet outcomes. • Demonstrates an insightful understanding of the concepts relating to outcomes. • Demonstrates the skills and processes embedded in outcomes in an efficient manner. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates substantial knowledge required to meet outcomes. • Demonstrates a logical understanding of the concepts relating to outcomes. • Demonstrates the skills and processes embedded in outcomes in an effective manner. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates sufficient knowledge required to meet outcomes. • Demonstrates a basic understanding of the concepts relating to outcomes. • Demonstrates the skills and processes embedded in outcomes in an acceptable manner. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student has not yet demonstrated sufficient knowledge required to meet outcomes. • Student has not yet demonstrated a basic understanding of the concepts relating to outcomes. • Student has not yet demonstrated the skills and processes embedded in outcomes in an acceptable manner.
<p><i>Extensive - ideas and/or actions provide extension or enriched thinking</i></p> <p><i>Insightful - accurate and deep understanding</i></p> <p><i>Efficient - ability to produce desired results with minimal steps or effort</i></p>	<p><i>Substantial- a considerable amount of ideas or degree of a desired quality</i></p> <p><i>Logical - using reason in an orderly and compelling fashion</i></p> <p><i>Effective - producing a result that is wanted</i></p>	<p><i>Sufficient - shows enough evidence of having met the criteria or requirements</i></p> <p><i>Basic - simple or merely functional</i></p> <p><i>Acceptable - meeting minimum criteria or requirements in a way that is agreeable to others</i></p>	<p>* Taken from: AAC Rubric Wordsmith at www.aac.ab.ca/go and Performance Standards Word List</p>

Grade Level of Programming (GLP)

GLP shows the current grade level at which a student is being taught. This is usually the same grade in which a student is enrolled. GLP appears on each progress report for English Language Arts and Literature / English Language Arts and Mathematics. For all other subjects, in situations where the GLP differs from the grade level of enrollment, the GLP will be indicated in the comments of the progress report.

End-of-Term and End-of-Course Codes

On your child's progress report, a teacher may use these Division codes for end-of-term and/or end-of-year performance descriptors/letter grades/ percentage marks.

Code	Meaning	Uses
IEA	Insufficient Evidence Available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IEA is used only as an end-of-term code when a teacher does not have enough evidence about a student's progress to give a grade/mark at the end of a term. IEA is not used as a final course code.
NGC	Not on Graded Curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NGC is used as an end-of-term code when a student, identified as having special education needs as documented on the student's IPP, is receiving modified programming and is therefore not on the graded curriculum. NGC is used as an end-of-course code when a student is provided a code of NGC in one, two or all three terms. Teachers who use the end-of-term or end-of-course code NGC for Mathematics and/or English Language Arts/English Language Arts and Literature on a student's progress report will leave the GLP blank when reporting GLP.
CMU	Course Mark Unavailable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CMU may be used at the end of a course when a student is provided a code of IEA in at least one term, two or all three terms. CMU indicates that a teacher does not have enough evidence over an entire course to give a final grade/mark.

Codes for use on Individual Student Reports (ISRs) in SchoolZone:

On your child's ISR, issued before the end of a term, a teacher may use these Division codes.

The following codes provide information about circumstances regarding the collection of evidence.

OMIT	Omit	Evidence has already been or will be collected to inform professional judgment.
IEA	Insufficient Evidence Available	Sufficient evidence is not yet available.
RNE	Replaced with New Evidence	This evidence has been replaced with more relevant evidence that demonstrates student understanding of the expected learning outcome.

ISR Approved Codes for Evaluation of Student Achievement and Growth

E	Exemplary	The student has exemplary knowledge, skills, and understanding of concepts and is able to transfer understanding independently in new situations. The student may require support to further extend understanding of concepts.
P	Proficient	The student has proficient knowledge, skills, and understanding of concepts that can be applied in familiar situations. The student may require occasional support to transfer learning to new situations.
AD	Adequate	The student has adequate knowledge, skills, and understanding of concepts. The student requires support and/or further experiences to develop a deeper understanding of concepts and apply learning in familiar and new situations.
L	Limited	The student has limited knowledge, skills, and understanding of concepts. The student requires support to develop and apply learning in highly structured situations.
IEA	Insufficient Evidence Available	Sufficient evidence is not yet available to provide an informed judgment of student achievement and growth.

How We Determine Student Grades/Marks

At Edmonton Public Schools, we determine grades in a variety of ways.

Formative Assessment

Throughout the year, your child will have many opportunities that help them increase what they know, understand and are able to do. These activities show your child's teacher how they are doing, what their strengths are and where they can improve in relation to the Alberta curriculum. This is called formative assessment.

Teachers use this information to adjust their teaching, give your child feedback to help them improve and prepare your child for times when they will receive grades.

Summative Assessment

During the school year, your child will have a chance to show what they have learned in relation to the Alberta curriculum. Using their judgment as professionals, teachers make decisions and determine grades that describe how your child is learning. They base these decisions on what they've seen your child do (observations), discussions they've had with your child (conversations) and the work your child has completed (products).

Missing or Incomplete Student Work

Principals must make sure that teachers communicate with parents/guardians promptly and regularly about missing or incomplete student work. This is outlined in Administrative Regulation [GKB.AR Standards for Evaluation](#), section 4:

4. Principals must work with their teachers to comply with the following:
 - a. evidence of student achievement has been collected by the teacher;
 - b. communication plans for reporting student achievement and growth to parents/guardians are developed and aligned with school-wide assessment and intervention plans;
 - c. a student has been given multiple opportunities and ways to demonstrate his/her learning;
 - d. follow up has occurred to determine the reason when a summative assessment item (assignment, test, project, etc.) is missing or incomplete, and that opportunities for the student to fulfill the requirement of the summative assessment item (assignment, test, project, etc.) are provided;
 - e. if the student continues to be unsuccessful, the student/parents/guardians will be informed and the teacher will solicit a solution in consultation with the student's parents/guardians to hold the student accountable and/or plan for further learning;
 - f. teachers will engage in on-going, timely communication with parents/guardians/students and the principal regarding missing or incomplete work; and
 - g. providing 4. b–f have been followed, the teacher can assign the student a mark of zero for that missed summative assessment item (assignment, test, project, etc.).

When your child has missing or incomplete work, we will: we will work with your child to determine the reason for the incomplete work. Once determined, we will provide the necessary support and next steps for your child to complete the work. For example, extra time may be allotted, the assignment may be adapted, or an alternate summative assessment task will be provided. The teacher will contact parents/guardians if there are ongoing concerns about missing or incomplete work.

Course Outlines

At Garth Worthington School, course outlines are provided for Grade 7-9 complementary subjects

Curriculum Summaries

[Curriculum at a Glance](#) (Alberta Education)

The Role of Homework

Homework is meant to:

- help support your child’s learning
- reinforce what your child learned in school
- give your child more practice

At Garth Worthington School , our homework policies include homework that can be beneficial to students in their learning because it allows them opportunities to review, practice and extend concepts being taught at school. Homework can be a wonderful opportunity for families to learn about life and learning at school and to witness students’ growing independence as learners.

Homework is expected to include daily home reading for at least 15 minutes each night. Home reading may include a child reading to himself or herself, paired-reading with a friend or even a child listening to someone reading to them. It may also include journal writing, spelling word practice, review of math basic facts and skills, and/or occasional projects to extend concepts being taught at school. When assigned, homework should be completed appropriately and in a timely manner; keeping in mind due dates assigned by teachers. Homework is not used for summative assessment purposes. Homework will not be assigned for students on a lengthy absence, but other activities can be suggested by the school if requested.

Academic Integrity

Cheating is not acceptable. This includes plagiarism (copying someone else’s work and passing it off as your own), stealing tests or assignments and getting answers for a test or assignment in advance. Cheating also includes giving answers or work to others to claim as their own.

If your child is suspected of plagiarism or cheating, school administration will meet with them and take action in accordance with Administrative Regulation [HG.AR Student Behaviour and Conduct](#).

Grades/ Marks Appeal Process

To appeal the grade your child has been given, contact the classroom teacher. If you can’t resolve the appeal with the teacher, contact the principal who will make a decision and explain it to you. The principal’s decision is final. A principal’s authority to do this is set out in the [Education Act](#).

The Role of Large Scale Tests

What are the Literacy and Numeracy Screening Assessments?

Alberta Education mandated Literacy and Numeracy Screening Assessments for all students in Kindergarten to Grade 3. These screening assessments will help teachers identify students in the critical early years who are most in need of additional support and provide a means to monitor growth over time. Below are descriptions of each assessment:

- The **Rapid Automatized Naming (RAN)** assesses children's and students' cognitive speed and automaticity of digit recognition.
- **The Phonological Awareness Screening Test (PAST)** assesses children's and students' phonemic awareness and proficiency.
- The **Castles and Coltheart 3 (CC3)** assessment is an English word-reading test designed to identify the nature of a student's reading difficulties. The CC3 assesses a student's ability to recall familiar and irregular words, and their ability to sound out non-words that were created specially for this assessment and are meant to be fictitious and without meaning.
- The **Letter Name-Sound (LeNS)** assesses a student's ability to sound out single letters and letter combinations.
- The **Provincial Numeracy Screening Assessment** is a collection of tasks designed to help teachers understand their students' underlying knowledge of the number system, basic number operations and proportional reasoning skills.

Which Provincial Literacy and Numeracy Screening Assessments apply to each grade?

- **NEW Kindergarten**
 - January, 2025 **NEW** *January 13-31, 2025 (all children)*
 - RAN
 - Kindergarten PAST
 - Kindergarten LeNS
 - Kindergarten Provincial Numeracy Assessment
- **Grade 1**
 - **NEW** September, 2024 **NEW** *September 9 - October 4, 2024 (all students)*
 - RAN
 - Grade 1 PAST
 - Grade 1 September LeNS
 - Grade 1 Provincial Numeracy Assessment
 - January, 2025 *January 13-31, 2025 (all students)*
 - Grade 1 January LeNs
 - CC3
 - Grade 1 Provincial Numeracy Assessment
 - May, 2025 - For students identified in January as 'at risk' based on their scores *May 12-30, 2025*
 - Grade 1 LeNs
 - CC3
 - Grade 1 Provincial Numeracy Assessment
- **Grade 2**
 - September, 2024 *September 9 - October 4, 2024 (all students)*
 - LeNS
 - CC3
 - Provincial Numeracy Assessment

- January, 2025 **NEW** *January 13-31, 2025 (all children)*
 - LeNs
 - CC3
 - Provincial Numeracy Assessment
- May, 2025 - For students identified in January as 'at risk' based on their scores *May 12-30, 2025*
 - LeNs
 - CC3
 - Provincial Numeracy Assessment
- **Grade 3**
 - September, 2024 *September 9 - October 4, 2024 (all students)*
 - CC3
 - Provincial Numeracy Assessment
 - January, 2025 **NEW** *January 13-31, 2025 (all children)*
 - CC3
 - Provincial Numeracy Assessment
 - May, 2025 - For students identified in January as 'at risk' based on their scores *May 12-30, 2025*
 - CC3
 - Provincial Numeracy Assessment

The Literacy and Numeracy Screening Assessment administration dates will be posted on SchoolZone, as a reminder to parents..

What is the Canadian Achievement Test (CAT4)?

The **Canadian Achievement Test (CAT4)** measures students' reading comprehension, mathematics, computation and estimation skills. CAT4 will support instruction and planning for interventions and supports. The CAT4 is administered in the fall and again in the spring to provide information about student growth.

Who takes the CAT4?

- students in Grade 4 to Grade 9 including French immersion and bilingual programs

The CAT4 Fall administration dates are September 16, 2024–September 27, 2024.

The CAT4 Spring administration dates are April 28, 2025–May 9, 2025.

What is the Highest Level of Achievement Test (HLAT)?

The **Highest Level of Achievement Test (HLAT)** measures students' writing skills compared with the Alberta curriculum in language arts. It shows teachers in each school how well their students are doing and how they compare to students across the Division.

Who takes the HLAT?

- students in Grade 1 to Grade 9 in English language arts
- students in Grade 2 to Grade 9 in French Immersion and bilingual programs*
- students in Grade 8 and Grade 9 in Late French Immersion

*The bilingual HLAT is called the bilingual writing assessment tool and is specific to certain languages (e.g., Chinese bilingual writing assessment tool, Arabic bilingual writing assessment tool).

The HLAT administration dates for students in English Language Arts are April 7–April 11, 2025.

What are Provincial Achievement Tests?

The **Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs)** measure how well students across Alberta are learning content as described in the curriculum. Average PAT scores for the school are shared publicly to show how Alberta students are doing, compared to provincial standards. Results from PATs help schools, school authorities and the province monitor and improve student learning.

While PATs are an important part of determining student growth and achievement, they are one part of the assessment process.

According to **Alberta Education**:

“PATs are only one of many ways to evaluate student learning and are not meant to replace day-to-day teacher observations and classroom assessment. They are sources of information that must be interpreted, used and communicated within the context of regular and continuous assessment by classroom teachers.”

Who takes PATs?

- students in Grade 6 and Grade 9 in English or French language arts, math, science and social studies write PATs

When are PATs administered?

- PATs are typically administered in the spring (PATs may be administered in January for Division schools in a semestered program).
- Dates are set by Alberta Education and are available at [Provincial Achievement Tests website](#).

The dates for the Grade 6 & 9 PATS 2024 were released in June, 2024 however, the official Guide to Achievement Test Administration has not been posted. When they are released, the dates may be adjusted and posted on SchoolZone for Grade 6 and 9 parent & student information. (subject to adjustments by Alberta Education)

- Wednesday, May 28, 2025: PAT Gr 6 ELA Part A
- Thursday, May, 29, 2025: PAT Gr 9 ELA Part A; PAT Grade 9 K&E ELA Part A
- Thursday, June 12, 2025: PAT Gr 6 ELA Part B; PAT Gr 9 ELA Part B; PAT Gr 9 K&E ELA Part B
- Friday, June 13, 2025: PAT Part A, Gr 6 Math; PAT Part A, Gr 9 Math
- Tuesday, June 17, 2025: PAT Gr 6 Math Part B; PAT Gr 9 Math Part B; PAT Gr 9 K&E Math
- Wednesday, June 18, 2025: PAT Gr 6 Social Studies; PAT Gr 9 Social Studies; PAT Gr 9 K&E Social Studies
- Thursday, June 19, 2025: PAT Gr 6 Science; PAT Gr 9 Science; PAT Gr 9 K&E Science

The Alberta government expects school divisions to report the scores from Grades 6 and 9 PATs. We will report the results to students and parents/guardians in the following way: a comment on the progress report in June will provide students with raw scores prior to the official marking from Alberta Education.