



# Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting

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# Elk Island Catholic Schools - Our Circle of Faith and Learning.

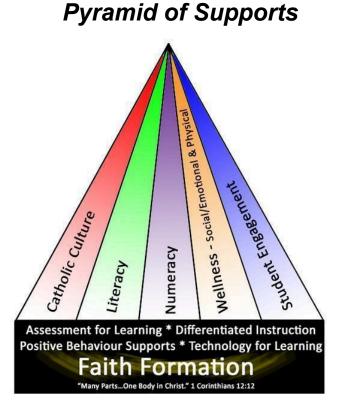
At Elk Island Catholic Schools (EICS), our mission is to develop educational opportunities in the context of Gospel values, where students' gifts and talents are celebrated and nurtured through lifelong spiritual and personal experiences. Through the efforts of our caring and dedicated parents and staff, our students are provided with a faith-based learning environment where they are safe and supported as they strive toward excellence in academics, athletics, fine arts and spiritual growth and development.

EICS is a place for students to grow and discover who they are and where they want to go in life. From Kindergarten through Grade 12, education is the activity that opens doors to the future.

# Elk Island Catholic Schools will ensure Success for all Students District Education Plan Priorities

- 1. Elk Island Catholic Schools will enhance the Faith Formation of its students
  - Sacramental Preparation
  - Celebrations
  - Faith Permeated Instruction

- 2. Elk Island Catholic Schools will provide Quality Learning Environments
  - Collaborative Response Model
  - Technology Integration
  - Literacy and Numeracy
  - Effective Teaching Practices
  - Effective Assessment Practices



- 3. Elk Island Catholic Schools will provide Engaging and Diverse Program Offerings
  - Innovative and authentic educational opportunities
  - Student Health and Wellness
  - Grade 4 into grade 5 Transition

# **Communicating Student Learning**

Report cards are only one piece of the communication system. It is a summary document that communicates student achievement that should have already been shared in some way. *There should be no surprises for the student or parent.* Alternate forms of communication may include:

• Feedback on student work

- Evidence of student learning
- Three-way conferences/Student-led Celebration of Learning
- Phone calls
- Emails
- Meetings (1 to 1) as needed
- Notes in agendas
- Student reflections
- Meet the Staff Night

The Comprehensive Reporting System of Elk Island Catholic Schools, as indicated in *Administrative Procedure 360*, shall include:

- Communication of student learning in relation to the Alberta Program of Studies Learning Outcomes;
- Communication of student performance in relation to citizenship and social responsibility expectations;
- On-going communication between home and the school (e.g. phone calls, emails, agendas)
- The provision of regular and timely access to information about student achievement, which could include online access where applicable; multiple opportunities for learning conferences with students, parents and teachers, interim reports, evidence of student learning;
- Report Cards.

## **Reporting Periods**

- September 2024 January 2025
- February 2025 June 2025

# **Report Cards Issued**

Report cards are written records of *student performance on curriculum outcomes* over a period of time. These will be live online on:

- January 30th, 2025
- June 26th, 2025

# Evidence of Learning

Evidence of learning is a *visual and/or oral history of a student's learning* over time. Evidence of learning and progress will be communicated to parents on a timely and ongoing basis. The process used to share Evidence of Learning at each school site must meet the following criteria:

- connected to student learning outcomes
- initiate conversations between the school and home,
- student centered (students articulate their learning)
- demonstrates student growth over time (strengths, areas of growth, and next steps).

Evidence of learning (in its variation) need to be approved by the Principal and may look like one/combination of the following:

- Learning Communication Folder to go home once a month to 6 weeks with student reflection and parent comment.
- Digital Portfolio via Google Classroom or a similar digital format
- Evidence of Learning Binders and Folders

# Three-way Conferences / Student Led Celebration of Learning

An opportunity for the *student, parent and teacher to engage in conversations* around the strengths, area of growth, and next steps of the student. These conferences will occur on:

- November 4th and 6th, 2024
- March 18th and 20th, 2025

# Individual Support Plans (ISP) /Regulation Support Plans

All students with a diagnosis of a disability or disorder shall have an ISP.

- Supporting documentation for the student's diagnosis is available in his/her student portfolio on Pasi.
- Completion of the ISP is the responsibility of the classroom teacher and is a collaborative process between all members of the student's Learning Support team.
- Parental input is ongoing, teachers invite parents to participate in the ISP process by granting them access to the ISP document through PowerSchool.
- ISPs are submitted to the Principal in early October for approval, once endorsed by the principal contributing members also endorse the ISP by October 31.
- Reviews with supporting parties align with the reporting periods (including transition plans in June.) The ISPs will include all accommodations, modifications, and strategies for the student.

# **Regulation Support Plan (RSPs):**

• A RSP is required for students with a Severe Behavior Disorder and for *some* students with a Severe Medical or Physical Disability. For students with Mild or Moderate Emotional/Behavioural disability, detailed *Student Engagement Strategies* within the ISP may be all that is needed to meet the student's individual needs.

# English as a Second Language (ESL)

- ESL benchmarks are to be completed and are entered into PowerSchool. Proficiency Benchmarks will be shared with parents. Specific language learning feedback is provided through formative and summative assessments.
- Online IPT/ Picture Prompts and ESL Benchmarks are due by November 30th
- ESL Benchmarks must be reported by May 30th

# Non-Achievement Factors

Teacher's professional judgment and rubrics will be used to assess *student effort, participation, attitude and other behaviours*. Non-achievement factors are not a part of the

student grade.

# Growth as a Learner



## Achievement Factors

Achievement factors are based on a student's *demonstration of attitudes, skills and knowledge* relative to grade level learner outcomes in the Alberta Program of Studies or in Individualized Support Plans (ISPs).

## Kindergarten

# *Evidence* of *student learning* is collected through a variety of assessments within a Kindergarten classroom.

- · Assessment is an ongoing part of each child's daily learning.
- Opportunities are created for children to demonstrate their understanding in a variety of ways.
- Assessment is used to provide feedback to the child and parents and to plan the learning environment.

• When assessment criteria is shared with children they will be more likely to be successful and complete the task (Alberta Education, *Kindergarten Program Statement*, 2008).

Report cards:

- January 30th, 2025
- June 26th, 2025

# **Levels of Achievement**

The levels of achievement indicates a student's demonstration of attitudes, skills and knowledge relative to grade level outcomes as indicated in the Alberta Program of Studies at that time of the report card.

0	Effectively applies learning to new situations     Demonstrates an <u>in-depth</u> understanding of the learning outcomes outlined in the Alberta Program of Studies     Uses skills and knowledge independently	Exemplary Consistently	
8	Effectively applies learning to familiar situations     Demonstrates a <u>solid</u> understanding of the learning outcomes outlined in the Alberta Program     of Studies     Uses skills and knowledge with little support	Proficient Usually	Meeting Grade Level Expectations
8	<ul> <li>Applies learning to simplistic situations</li> <li>Demonstrates a <u>basic</u> understanding of the learning outcomes outlined in the Alberta Program of Studies</li> <li>Uses skills and knowledge with moderate support</li> </ul>	Progressing Sometimes	
0	<ul> <li>Demonstrates a limited or incomplete understanding of the learning outcomes outlined in the Alberta Program of Studies</li> <li>Consistently requires guidance and support</li> </ul>	Beginning	Not Yet Meeting Grade Leve Expectations

Adapted from: O'Connor, K. (2011). A repair kit for grading; 15 fixes for broken grades. Pearson Education Inc. Boston: MA

# **Student Grading**

Creating quality learning environments that empower *students to know where they are, where they need to go, and how they are going to get there* is a focus within all Elk Island Catholic Schools. The reporting of student achievement will be based upon the learning outcomes in the Alberta Program of Studies.

#### 1. Decisions about student assessment and reporting shall be guided by the following:

• Strategies shall be used to ensure the development of a quality assessment

environment, designed to improve both teaching and student learning.

- Teachers will share learning outcomes and assessment materials with parents on an ongoing basis throughout the year. This may include:
  - Classroom newsletters
  - Meet the Staff night
  - 3-way or Student-led Celebration of Learning
  - Blogs and websites
  - Evidence of Learning

#### 2. Formative Assessments

- Formative assessment occurs daily to monitor student learning
- Share learning targets regularly to develop a common understanding
- Give and receive timely descriptive feedback about student learning. It should focus on what a student can do, clearly identifying both strengths and areas of difficulty.
- Involve students in their own assessment (e.g. self/peer)
- Should be an ongoing process
- Use assessment to inform instruction (e.g. Goal setting, self-reflection, next steps)
- Teachers should provide sufficient formative opportunities prior to summative assessment.

#### 3. Summative Assessments

- Summative assessment occurs at or near the end of a period of learning, and may be used to inform further instruction.
- Assessment must be based on the most recent demonstration of student learning.
- Effort, participation, attitude and other behaviours, that may not be curriculum based, must be reported separately from academic achievement.
- Student participation in a group may only be assessed individually.
- Teachers will obtain assessment information through a variety of means.

#### Triangulation of Evidence may include:

**Observations with Anecdotal Evidence** : dramatization, group work, lab procedures, performance

**Conversations with Anecdotal Evidence** : questioning, conferencing, group work, class discussions, self/peer assessment, journaling

Products : exams, quizzes, authentic learning tasks

**4. Based upon the** *teacher's professional judgment* students may be provided *t*he opportunity to have a second chance at a summative assessment, with *sufficient time for learning opportunities* between assessments

Learning opportunities between assessments may look like:

- Small group intervention
- Differentiated instruction
- Teacher modelling
- Opportunities for extra practice
- Students need the opportunity to demonstrate their learning in performance based assessments.

#### 5. Missing or Incomplete Student Work

The primary purpose of student assessment and evaluation is to *support student learning* and to have all students improve their performance. The following process will be followed in the case of missing or incomplete student work:

- Teacher will communicate with the student/parent to determine how best to have the work completed
- Opportunities will be given in a variety of ways depending on the circumstance on how to best help the student achieve the learning outcome.
- Tasks may vary from what was completed in class.

#### 6. Homework

Homework is the extension of classroom learning. Homework allows students the opportunity to practice strategies that will assist in achieving the learning outcomes as outlined in the Alberta Program of Studies.

- Preparation for projects
- Daily reading / Daily math practice/ Word work

## 7. Large Scale Testing

#### • Kindergarten Screener

Kindergarten screens are conducted in the fall and in the spring and results are shared with parents during scheduled conferences.

#### • Fountas and Pinnell Assessment

Fountas and Pinnell is administered to grades 2 - 4 by November 30 with a final assessment by the end of June. Both are entered into Powerschool

#### • EICS Math Assessments

Administered in September to all grade 1-4 students.

#### • EICS Literacy Assessments

Phonological Awareness Assessment is administered to grades 1-3 in September

## School Collaborative Response Model will be used to support student Learning

- Ongoing Assessments
- Collaborative Team Meetings
- Pyramid of Supports

# References

Alberta Assessment Consortium. Assessment Glossary. Taken from: http://www.aac.ab.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/Glossarymat\_updated\_Feb\_2013.pdf

Alberta Assessment Consortium. (2012). AAC key visual: Assessing student learning in the classroom. Taken from: <u>http://www.aac.ab.ca/professional-learning/professional-learning-modules/</u>

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Davies, A., Herbst, S. & Reynolds, B. (2008). *Leading the way to making classroom assessment work*. Connections Publishing Inc: B.C.

O'Connor, K. (2013). The School Leader's Guide to Grading. Solution Tree Press: Bloomington, IN.