

September 2017

Dear Saanich Parents/Guardians:

FSA - Foundation Skills Assessment

The Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) will be given to all grade 4 and grade 7 students throughout the province in October and November, 2017.

The redesigned Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) is aligned with the redesigned curriculum and reflects the recommendations from the Advisory Group on Provincial Assessment (AGPA). The FSA has a focus on collaboration, communication, critical thinking, and the foundations of literacy and numeracy.

We would like you to know the following:

- The FSA will include online and written components.
- The FSA is an inclusive assessment and will accommodate students whose Individual Education Plan (IEP) indicates specific learning adaptations and strategies.
- Principals will notify parents of any student whose Individual Education Plan indicates a rationale for exclusion from FSA.
- Parents may request that Principals excuse their children from the FSA only in the event of family emergency, extended illness or extenuating circumstances. Contact your Principal if any of these criteria apply to your child.
- Students who do not take part in one or more of the components of FSA will be scored as "performance level unknown."

More information about the FSA can be found on the Ministry of Education web site at <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/assessment-reporting/new-foundation-skills-assessment>.

Please contact your school Principal if you have any questions.

Yours truly,



Mark Fraser
Assistant Superintendent

MF/skd