



# **Guide to Student Assessment, Achievement, and Learning**

**Grades K-6**

## **River Heights Elementary School**

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## **Guide to Student Assessment, Achievement, and Learning**

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Teachers in Medicine Hat Public School Division are focused on supporting our students to be independent and successful learners. As part of this work, teachers in all our schools are engaged in developing and using assessment practices that assess students based on outcomes. Outcomes describe what your child is expected to know and do according to the Alberta Education Programs of Study.

Students should know and understand the outcomes they need to achieve, what they are doing to achieve them, and what they will do if there are barriers, struggles or challenges. As students demonstrate their learning and achievement, teachers assess progress and, at key points during the year, formally assess student achievement on those outcomes. There should be regular communication with students and parents about their learning and levels of achievement throughout the year, through communication features on Edsby such as Gradebook or Learning Story. In addition to the regular, ongoing communication report cards are accessible in Edsby at the end of each reporting period.

### **ACTIONS TO SUPPORT STUDENT SUCCESS**

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#### **You can support your child's learning and success by:**

- Knowing you are an important part of the team.
- Creating routines at home that help your child be prepared for learning every day.
- Making sure your child attends school regularly and on time.
- Staying informed and connected to the school – reading the information sent home or communicated through social media.
- Asking questions of your child's teacher if you're unsure about where your child is at.
- Attending school events and parent-student-teacher interviews/conferences.
- Asking your child questions about their learning and helping them recognize the actions they are taking towards improvement and learning.

#### **Teachers will help your child's learning and success by:**

- Providing programming that is suitable for your child.
- Providing multiple opportunities and ways for students to show what they know and can do.
- Planning with students who may have missed important assessments and activities.
- Communicating expectations and how student work will be graded/graded in student friendly language.
- Keeping detailed evidence of your child's achievement and challenges.
- Regularly communicating with you about how your child is doing and the learning occurring in the classroom and/or course.
- Using Universal Screening Tools for literacy and numeracy to plan for instruction and learning for Grade 1 – 10 students.

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

- Attend school every day and on time.
- Be participants in classroom and school activities.
- Ask questions.
- Demonstrate their learning by finishing assignments to the best of their ability.
- Let the teacher know when they need help.
- Take advantage of chances offered to revise and/or redo assignments or tests so they can show growth in their knowledge or skills.

## **HOW DO WE DETERMINE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT?**

At Medicine Hat Public School Division, we determine grades/marks in a variety of ways.

### **Formative Assessments**

Over the course of the year, your child should have many opportunities to develop and practice key skills and develop their knowledge. These opportunities show your child's teacher how they are doing, what their strengths are, and where they can improve. This is called formative assessment.

### **Summative Assessments**

Throughout the school year, your child will have opportunities to demonstrate what they have learned by an identified point in time. These are assessed and are put together with other evidence. Teachers then make decisions using the work your child has completed (products), what they've seen your child do (observations), and discussions they've had with your child (conversations), to determine a mark on the report card.

### **Missing or Incomplete Student Work**

It is important that teachers communicate with families regularly and in a timely fashion about missing or incomplete student work. At River Heights, if there are concerns regarding missing or incomplete student work, teachers will contact parents by phone or through Edsby to discuss ways the teacher and school team can support students and families in completing assigned work. This may include a meeting to brainstorm strategies or create a supportive and collaborative plan to ensure students and families have the tools needed to complete learning goals.

Students absent from school must complete missing assignments and summative assessments as soon as possible from the original assessment date unless otherwise determined by the teacher. Students who miss significant school time due to vacation miss valuable learning and educational experiences in the classroom with their teacher and classmates. Homework packages or assignments cannot replace or serve the student and the crucial learning stemming from the exploration, creation, reflection, collaboration, discussion, and problem-solving in the classroom and school. However, we know that students will likely miss some school due to illness or health-related reasons. If your child is absent for any reason (especially for numerous days), teachers will utilize Google

Classroom or Edsby to provide key concepts and applicable assignments that students will be learning while your child is away. It is expected that parents will support their children in learning these outcomes.

## SCHOOL ASSESSMENT & REPORTING COMMUNICATION PLAN

Our school uses many tools and ways to make sure you are informed during the school year. Please make sure you review information communicated to you about your child.

### Reporting Terms:

TERMS	DATES	COMMUNICATION TYPE & DATE
	August 28, 2025	Welcome Email & Meet the Teacher- 5:30-6:30
Term 1	September 2, 2025 – December 1, 2025	Report Cards released on December 5, 2025 in Edsby
	November 19 & 20, 2025	Student Led Conferences -Reflect on student growth and area of need in the 4 core subjects through student led demonstration of learning.
Term 2	December 2, 2025 - March 23, 2026	Report Cards released on March 27, 2026 in Edsby
	March 11 & 12, 2026	Student Showcase of Learning -Student led showcase of cross curricular projects to demonstrate understanding of curricular outcomes in 4 core subjects.
Term 3	March 24, 2026 - June 25, 2026	Final Report Card released by June 25, 2026 in Edsby

### Ongoing Communication:

It is important that you know what your child is learning about and their achievement along the way. Edsby is an online tool that is used division wide to support this communication. Our teachers commit to communicating with parents about how they plan to share information throughout the year. Teachers and parents will continue to utilize student agendas and learning journals to support ongoing, frequent communication about student learning, successes, and areas for growth. Parents will receive ongoing communication and updates on school events and learning outcomes through weekly and monthly communication, Edsby River of News, emails, and personal phone calls. Teachers will also notify parents of upcoming class and school celebrations of learning to showcase projects and learning. Parents are asked to support effective two-way communication with teachers and have frequent conversations with their children to explore and reflect upon their learning.

## UNDERSTANDING REPORTING (Grades 1 – 6)

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### WHAT ARE THE ACHIEVEMENT INDICATORS?

Achievement Indicators describe the level to which your child is achieving in each of the categories on the report card.

If your child receives an M for MEETING, he or she has achieved the grade-level outcome to an ACCEPTABLE standard. If your child receives an E for EXCELLING, this demonstrates a DEEPER LEVEL of mastery within the grade-level outcome.

E	M	A	B
<p><b>Excelling</b> in grade level outcomes. Student evidence of learning may be: In depth, perceptive, insightful, thorough, independent. <b>Overall achievement at this level means the student can be confident of being prepared and able to take on new challenges in subsequent grades/courses.</b></p>	<p><b>Meeting</b> grade level outcomes. Student evidence of learning may be: accurate, thoughtful, logical, complete, independent. <b>Overall achievement at this level means a student can be confident of being prepared for work in subsequent grades/courses.</b></p>	<p><b>Approaching</b> grade level outcomes. Student evidence of learning may be: partially accurate, basic, simplistic, incomplete, in progress. <b>Additional supports may be necessary to further learning in this area.</b></p>	<p><b>Beginning</b> grade level outcomes. Student evidence of learning may be: inaccurate, vague, undeveloped, minimal, limited. <b>Additional planning and instructional supports will be necessary for further learning in this area.</b></p>

### WHAT ABOUT OTHER PROGRAMMING INDICATORS?

Teachers, based on the needs of a student, may need to add additional information about the type of programming that affects the way your child's achievement is recorded. Your child's teacher may still reflect a level of achievement next to the outcomes on the report card, but they may be based on adaptations or in the case of some students, the level of achievement and growth may be reflected in an Individual Support Plan (ISP). Parents should always be aware prior to the report card if these indicators are used.

ELL (English Language Learner)	Adapted	Modified
<p>The student's language proficiency level impacts the evaluation of achievement.</p>	<p>Student is working on provincial curriculum with adjustments made to instruction.</p>	<p>Student is working on programming significantly different than provincial curriculum. The student's Individual Support Plan (ISP) will reflect more specific achievement towards goals.</p>

## **WHAT ABOUT EFFORT OR BEHAVIOUR?**

The Learner Attributes allow you to see how your child is developing the learning skills and abilities needed to succeed in their own learning as part of the classroom community. These Learner Attributes focus on participation, cooperation, quality work, and respect for self and others. Teachers use observations to identify how often these attributes are demonstrated using the scale below:

C - Consistently	U - Usually	S - Sometimes	R - Rarely
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## **HOW WILL PROVINCIAL ACHIEVEMENT TESTS BE REPORTED?**

Provincial Achievement Tests (grade 6 and 9) will still be reported as a single percentage and included for parent information as it becomes available.