

August 2012

# Public Achievement Information

## Reporting National Standards

We want all of our kids to be successful in the modern world. Providing high quality data that helps us all to understand and support a student's learning is one of the ways the Government is working to raise student achievement and ensure this happens.

Information from your school and other schools in your area, such as National Standards data and Education Review Office (ERO) reports, will all be found in one place. Over time, additional information from here and overseas will provide a rich and comprehensive body of Public Achievement Information (PAI).

You will have easy access to the information at [www.educationcounts.govt.nz](http://www.educationcounts.govt.nz)



## What will National Standards data show me and why is it being published?

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The information will show your school's achievement and progress against the National Standards in reading, writing and maths.

It will help keep you and other parents and families up to date on how children are progressing, help make sure we see when they are falling behind, and help all learners to succeed.



### What else do I need?

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To help you make informed judgements about your child's school, National Standards data is being published with other Public Achievement Information.

### For a full picture, you should:

- ✓ look at National Standards alongside other information from your school
- ✓ meet with your school's principal
- ✓ ask questions of teachers and school trustees
- ✓ talk with other parents.

# What do National Standards aim to do?

## Help children

- Focus on what they need to learn to reach a required skill level in reading, writing and maths.
- Know what level they are at and what they need to do next in their learning.

## Help you

- Understand clearly what reading, writing and maths skills are expected at each stage of your child's schooling.
- Understand how well your child is doing and what your school is doing to help your child progress, including receiving plain-English reports.
- Ask questions and have discussions with teachers that will help your child's learning.
- Improve your understanding of and confidence in your school and the wider education system.

## Help schools and teachers

- Identify children falling behind and ensure they get support to improve.
- Set goals for students to achieve National Standards and tailor teaching and learning to individual students' needs.
- See more clearly what national expectations are as they review students' progress and achievement.

## Help the Government

- Form a clear picture of overall achievement – from individual school level to regional and national level – and use it to help raise achievement for all learners.
- Drive closer working relationships between learners, parents, schools and teachers, and the Ministry of Education.
- Target valuable support and learning resources to where they are most needed.

# How will National Standards data look?

In this first year of reporting, National Standards data will appear online in the format that schools have submitted it. That may be as tables, as graphs or as text. Below you can see examples of how it might look.

The screenshot shows the 'Find a School' page for Kiwi Park School. The 'Student Achievement' section contains the following table:

	Well Below Standard	Below Standard	At Standard	Above Standard	Number of Students
<b>Mathematics</b>					
Māori	8%	31%	48%	13%	48
Pasifika	9%	32%	45%	14%	22
Boys	5%	26%	50%	25%	100
Girls	5%	26%	55%	20%	100
Total	5%	21%	52%	21%	200

Below the table is a bar chart titled 'Reading 2011' showing the number of students in each category:

Category	Number of Students
Well below	0
Below	8
At standard	36
Above	12

Text below the chart: **The numbers and proportions of students at, above, below or well below the standards**

- Thirty two, a proportion of twenty two percent of students were above the standard in reading, sixty four students or forty four percent of students were at standard, thirty six or twenty five percent were below standard and twelve a proportion of eight percent were well below the standard. This information includes our ELLS and OHS students.

These tabs and the information behind them are important considerations, along with National Standards data, when you are looking to make decisions about schools for your children.

The screen here indicates three different ways that a school's achievement information may be presented – in table form, as a graph or as text. It will depend on what format schools have used to report to the Ministry.

## Making a great system better

Our education system is one of the best in the world. National Standards reporting is all about making a great system even better. Within the next five years, the information reported will become better and better and more and more useful.

## Want to know more?

**Five questions you could ask your child's teacher:**

- How well is my child doing compared to national standards in reading, writing and maths?
- How much progress have they made recently?
- What are their strengths and areas for development?
- Where next for my child in terms of their learning?
- How can I help? For more suggestions and information visit the Ministry of Education website [www.minedu.govt.nz](http://www.minedu.govt.nz).