



Winchester School

A Parents Guide to National Standards

Updated 2015

National Standards

1. Frequently Asked Questions (published by Ministry of Education)

What are National Standards?

National Standards in reading, writing and maths show what all New Zealand children are expected to be able to do by the end of each stage during Years 1-8, as part of what they learn at school.

Why have National Standards?

National Standards give teachers, children, parents, families and whānau a clear idea of what children need to learn and show where they are at in reading, writing and maths. When everyone understands where they are at, then everyone can be clear about how to best support their learning – both at home and at school.

How does the teacher work out where your child is at?

Teachers will use a range of assessments to make an overall teacher judgment to work out where each child is at, what their next learning steps are and to set goals. School reporting will clearly show your child's progress and achievement, what the teacher and school will do to help your child reach their goals, and what you can do at home to support your child's learning.

Will there be one test?

No. Teachers use many different ways to work out where each child is at – including watching them in the classroom, talking with them about their learning, children's assessment of their and each others' work and using formal tests.

For further information go to this website www.minedu.govt.nz

2. Using the Standards at Winchester School

National Standards are being implemented as part of government policy. Using the Ministry of Education National Standards guidelines Winchester School has devised a system to fit with our current assessment practices.

3. How children's progress and achievement is assessed

To work out where each child is at in reading, writing and maths in relation to the National Standards, teachers will make an overall teacher judgment.

No one tool will be used to make a judgment. Teachers will use all the evidence available to make, and be able to justify, an overall judgment. Teaching teams will meet to moderate judgments to attempt to get consistency.

The following are the tools that teachers at Winchester School will use to form their overall teacher judgments.

Writing Tools

Junior	Middle	Senior
Draft writing	Draft writing	Draft writing
School-wide assessments	School-wide assessments	School-wide assessments
Peters' Spelling Test	Peters' Spelling Test	Peters' Spelling Test
		Ability to use writing as an interactive tool across the curriculum

Reading Tools

Junior	Middle	Senior
Running Records	Running Records	Running Records
Guided Reading Observations	Guided Reading Observations	Guided Reading Observations
	PAT Test results	PAT Test results
		Ability to use reading as an interactive tool across the curriculum

Mathematics Tools

Junior	Middle	Senior
Knowledge Tests	Knowledge Tests	Knowledge Tests
Strategy Tests	Strategy Tests	Strategy Tests
Basic Facts Tests	Basic Facts Tests	Basic Facts Tests
Numeracy problem solving results	Numeracy problem solving results	Numeracy problem solving results
Schoolwide assessments	Schoolwide assessments	Schoolwide assessments
	PAT Mathematics Test	PAT Mathematics Test

Teachers will use the **overall teacher judgment** to help each child work out their next learning steps and to set goals. School reporting will show your child's progress and achievement, what the teacher and school will do to help your child reach their goals, and what you can do at home to support your child's learning.

4. Sharing Learning Goals

An important part of 'Reporting to Parents' will be your child sharing their goal sheet and discussing how they are going to achieve their goals. The Goal Sheet will be taken home at the end of the interview.

During the weeks prior to interviews, each child, with help from their teacher, will set a goal for each of the Standards.

- ◆ **Reading** - The child's reading goal will be decided during guided reading time; i.e., when the teacher is working with a group of children on specific reading instruction.
- ◆ **Writing** - The child will set their goal after analysing their recent personal recount or draft writing.
- ◆ **Mathematics** - The child will set their goal after looking at the result of their most recent Numeracy Knowledge test.

We hope that by discussing the goal sheet you will be better informed about your child's learning needs and ways that you can support their learning. The end of year report will include comments on the progress of achievement of your child's goals.

The teacher may give you a Ministry of Education pamphlet or refer you to our website copy of the pamphlet, to give you ideas of what to do at home to assist your child achieve their goals. For more ideas about helping at home, see the section in the back of this booklet. "Helping at Home".

5. How we will Report to Parents at Winchester School

At the Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews the child's Mid-Year Report (see blank example next page) will be presented and discussed with you.

The *shaded boxes represent the Standard* that the Ministry of Education has set for most students to achieve by the end of a year of schooling. The ticks on the report show the **Overall Teacher Judgment** for a particular standard after the teacher has analysed all the evidence available. The Overall Teacher Judgment is **not** based on one test.

It is important to note that this is a teacher judgment of where your child is currently at, and this judgment may vary between teachers and schools across the country.

The National Standards have been set at a higher level than the NZ Curriculum levels we use - the Ministry of Education call them '**aspirational**'. In other words, they have been deliberately set higher to encourage schools and children to achieve at a higher level than before.

This means your child may not appear to be achieving as high as they were when we reported using the NZ Curriculum levels. Don't be disappointed - this simply reflects the new 'aspirational levels' imposed on schools.

Test results are also shown on the Report where applicable to the child.

A Sample of a Mid-Year Report you will receive at Interviews

Test Results this child has completed are shown in the boxes below.

Winchester School Mid Year Report 2010				Name: _____		Year Level: 5																																																																																					
Reading				Mathematics																																																																																							
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Reading Age: 11 - 12 YRS PAT Reading Comprehension: 6				Knowledge Stage: 5 Strategy Stage: 5 Basic Facts: 54% PAT Mathematics: 8																																																																																							
Writing				A Reader's Guide To The Report: The shaded boxes indicate the expected National Standard at each age/year band. The ticks on these graphs show how your child compares to the National Standards. The judgement is made by the teacher using a variety of evidence gathered throughout the year. Knowledge is the instant recall of key mathematical skills. Strategy is using knowledge skills to solve problems. <table style="font-size: 8px; width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><i>Expected Knowledge Stages</i></td> <td style="width: 50%;"><i>Expected Strategy Stages</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>After 2 years Stage 2</td> <td>After 2 years Stage 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>End of Year 4 Stage 4</td> <td>End of Year 4 Stage 5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>End of Year 6 Stage 6</td> <td>End of Year 6 Stage 6</td> </tr> </table> PAT Tests - The children's test scores are scaled and grouped into stanines ranging from 1 (Low) to 9 (Outstanding)				<i>Expected Knowledge Stages</i>	<i>Expected Strategy Stages</i>	After 2 years Stage 2	After 2 years Stage 4	End of Year 4 Stage 4	End of Year 4 Stage 5	End of Year 6 Stage 6	End of Year 6 Stage 6																																																																												
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Spelling Age: 12.3 yrs				Teacher: _____ Date: June 2010 Principal: _____																																																																																							

*This child is working **'Above'** the National Standard expected in Writing 'by the end of Year 5'.*

*This child is working **'At'** the National Standard expected in Reading and Mathematics 'by the end of Year 5'.*

Important Note

We will report to the Board of Trustees using the required categories: **well below**, **below**, **at**, and **above** the standard. However, we will not use these terms on the child's report. The tick clearly shows where your child is at, in relation to the National Standard that they have been measured against.

6. How To Help Your Child At Home

Reading

- Make reading an enjoyable, stress-free time
- Read to your child every night
- Share the reading of a story - take turns reading pages
- Listen daily to your child read their school book
- Have a discussion about what you have read
- Think of a different ending for the story
- Ask your child to retell the story in their own words
- Ask your child to draw a picture about the story
- Visit the library - choose a range of books, both fiction and non-fiction
- Read words in the environment eg. street signs
- Encourage your child to read a range of texts eg recipes, newspapers, magazines, comics
- Play board games together that involve reading
- On-line reading games
- Show your child that you enjoy reading
- Provide a suitable environment for reading to occur

Writing

- Talking is the foundation for writing. Discuss and talk about what you are doing
- Find letters and words in the environment
- Practise letter names and sounds
- Play simple word games eg I Spy
- Encourage your child to practise writing letters in different ways eg water, chalk, playdough, sand
- Give your child opportunities to write eg shopping lists, letters, emails, cards, thank you notes
- Talk to your child about what they wrote about at school
- Talk to your child about what they could write about the next day
- Play board games such as Scrabble
- Encourage your child with their spelling learning - children should write their words down
- Ensure children have access to a dictionary
- Immerse your child in hearing 'rich' language
- Show your child that you enjoy writing

Mathematics

- Practise writing numerals correctly
- Notice numbers in the environment
- Practise counting objects 1-1
- Practise counting forwards and backwards from any number
- Practise skip counting in 2s, 5s, 10s etc ... eg 2, 4, 6, 8 ...
- Play card, dice and domino games
- Play shops
- Bring maths into real situations eg cooking, shopping, measuring
- Board games that involve numbers
- Reading the time together and asking time problems
- Daily practice of basic facts - addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- On-line maths games
- Show your child that you enjoy mathematics

Useful websites

www.nzmaths.co.nz

www.ixl.com

www.tutpup.com