

# Assessment during the COVID-19 pandemic



**During these extraordinary times, teachers continue to use their professional judgement to meet the needs of their students. What does this mean for assessment?**



Familiarize yourself with your district's and school's plans and priorities for continuity of learning.



Use your professional autonomy to prioritize what learning standards can be achieved at home. Broadly, the focus should be on the development of student literacy, numeracy, and Core Competencies.



As you create assessment opportunities for your students, there is lots of room for different tools, platforms, and methods. This may include online platforms. It may also mean more traditional methods that can be done outside of the classroom. Keep in mind that not all students have access to regular or reliable technology.



Consider the unique needs of individual students when selecting prioritized learning standards and differentiate as appropriate. For graduating students, when appropriate, work with your students and their parents/caregivers to identify priority learning topics to support their post-secondary studies and career opportunities.



Use your professional judgement to assess what individual students know, understand, and can demonstrate.



Image source: iStock/SDI Productions



Provide appropriate feedback in relationship to literacy and numeracy learning standards.



Emphasize learner self-assessment by continuing to ensure students are actively engaged and take ownership in the learning process. Peer assessment may also be possible.



You have the professional autonomy to decide how grades are determined for your students using both pre- and post-spring break learning as the basis for your assessment. For many students, most evidence of student learning will have occurred before spring break.



K–9 teachers are expected to report on student learning as outlined in the K–9 Student Reporting Policy based on student work prior to the suspension of in-class instruction, and the assessment of participation in learning opportunities during the coming months.



10–12 teachers are expected to determine a final grade for students based on work completed to date, and the assessment of participation in learning opportunities that will occur over the coming months. The only graduation assessment required for current Grade 12 students is the Grade 10 numeracy assessment.



You are empowered to use your professional judgement to determine whether a student has demonstrated sufficient evidence of learning. This means there is freedom to how you assign marks and communicate them to students and families.



Just as it is not expected that a normal school day is replicated outside the classroom, it is also understood that reports prepared under these circumstances may not provide the same level of detail that is found in a report card produced in more normal times.

**The Ministry is posting regular updates, based on the evolving COVID-19 pandemic. Please see:**

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/administration/program-management/safe-caring-and-orderly-schools>