

Greater Victoria School District

Greater Victoria School District No. 61
556 Boleskine Road, Victoria, BC V8Z 1E8
Phone (250) 475-4162 Fax (250) 475-4112



September 11, 2026

RE: Foundation Skills Assessment

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The [Foundation Skills Assessment \(FSA\)](#) is an annual learning assessment of literacy and numeracy for students in Grades 4 and 7. The FSA is based on BC curriculum and is designed in collaboration with teachers, educational experts, and the Ministry of Education and Child Care.

This year, the FSA will be administered September 28 to November 6, 2026. This is not an assessment that requires students to prepare in advance. Students answer interactive online questions and complete written work in a booklet in class which is then sent home with the student's assessment results. FSA results are assessed using the provincial proficiency scale and assess how students think, communicate, and reflect—and does not just evaluate the facts they know.

Foundation Skills Assessments		Graduation Assessments	
Grade 4  Combined Literacy & Numeracy Assessment	Grade 7  Combined Literacy & Numeracy Assessment	Grade 10  &  Individual Literacy & Numeracy Assessments	Grade 12  Literacy Assessment

As part of a series of provincial assessments that continue into high school (see image above), **the purpose of the FSA** is to measure the skills students have learned over the past several years. The FSA does not provide a complete picture of your child's ability, nor does it count towards their marks. Individual student performance is determined through ongoing assessment by educators and communication with parents. The information provided by the assessment is used by the province, school districts, and schools to inform plans that improve student learning.

All children in Grades 4 and 7 are expected to write the FSA, with the following exceptions:

1. Students whose personalized learning standards significantly differ from provincial curricular standards and are documented in their Individual Education Plan (IEP).
2. English Language Learners who have not reached a level of proficiency sufficient to provide meaningful responses to the reading or writing or numeracy sections of the FSA.
3. Students experiencing extenuating circumstances (e.g. a family emergency or lengthy illness).

The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

Your child's school principal will determine if a student may be excused from participating in the FSA. Parents or caregivers will be notified by their principal prior to the administration date if your child meets the Ministry's criteria for exemption.

We encourage you to discuss the FSAs with your children and help them understand the purpose of the assessments. Your support can help ease nerves and assist your child in feeling more confident leading up to and during the assessments.

If you have questions or concerns about the FSA, please contact your principal for further information or clarification.

Sincerely,

Greater Victoria School District (No. 61)