



1080 Winslow Ave., Coquitlam, British Columbia V3J 0M6 ● Phone 604-939-9201

September 20, 2023

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS Foundation Skills Assessment

School District No. 43 (Coquitlam) will be conducting the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) in October and early November, in accordance with the School Act. The Foundation Skills Assessment measures literacy and numeracy skills in Grade 4 and Grade 7 as set out in provincial curricula and is only one source of the data that teachers and the district use to establish comprehensive evidence of student achievement in the Coquitlam School District.

The FSA continues to:

- assess literacy and numeracy
- contain both written and online components

It includes:

- a classroom collaboration activity which helps students choose between two reading themes
- an online portion which includes clicking and dragging, highlighting, selecting from a drop-down menu or entering a numerical response
- two self-reflection components, one at the end of the booklet and one at the end of the online portion.

The Foundation Skills Assessment does NOT measure any outcomes from the Grades 4 or 7 curricula. It is a cumulative review of outcomes taught in K – 3 or K – 6.

As a provincially prescribed assessment, all Grade 4 and Grade 7 students are expected to participate in the FSA. There are specific exemptions identified by the Ministry regarding students who have previously written the FSA's at that grade level, some students with Individualized Education Programs (IEP's) and some students receiving English as an Additional Language (EAL) support.

A parent/guardian wishing to request that a student be excused from participating in the 2023 FSA can do so under the following exemptions as set out by the Ministry of Education:

- Family emergency
- Illness
- Extenuating circumstances

Please contact your school principal should you need to discuss this information as it pertains to your Grade 4 or Grade 7 child. For more information on the FSA, visit: [Foundation Skills Assessment \(FSA\) - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/foundation-skills-assessment)

Sincerely,

Patricia Gartland
Superintendent/CEO
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 43 (COQUITLAM)