

Annunciation Catholic School Assessment Policy

Philosophy of Assessment

We believe that assessment supports and encourages effective teaching and learning. Assessment promotes student learning and growth and helps to determine a learner's level of understanding. Assessment provides opportunities for students to demonstrate the essential elements of learning (including the process and the product), and gives our students and community opportunities to celebrate learning.

Purpose of Assessment

- To include students as active participants in the learning process
- To guide instruction
- To provide information that can be communicated with students and families
- To provide evidence of learning and development
- An opportunity to reflect on and celebrate learning

Principles of Assessment

- Assessment is key to planning, teaching, and learning
- Criteria are known and understood in advance
- There is a balance between types of assessments
- There are opportunities for both peer and self-assessment.
- There are opportunities for students to reflect on their own learning
- Teachers pre-assess students' knowledge and experience
- Teachers provide students with feedback for future learning
- Involves collaboration between students and teachers
- Reporting to parents is meaningful
- Identifies what is worth knowing
- Allows students to demonstrate learning in multiple formats
- Teachers utilize a variety of assessment strategies and tools

Assessment Practices

Assessing – how we discover what students have learned

Recording – how we note our findings about what students have learned

Reporting – how we communicate what students have learned

Types of Assessment

- Diagnostic/pre-assessment
- Formative Assessment
- Summative Assessment
- Assessment of the Essential Elements of the PYP
- 5th Grade Exhibition
- Standardized Assessment (details available here)

What is Assessed?

- Understanding of concepts
- Acquisition of knowledge
- Mastery of skills
- Development and demonstration of attitudes and attributes (K-5)
- Student progress and performance in the following subject areas: language arts; mathematics; social studies; science; religion; PSPE; and Language B (Spanish)
- The attitudes and attributes of the Learner Profile (self-assessment)

Our Assessment Strategies

Teachers use a variety of assessment tools to record and document evidence of student progress, including: rubrics, checklists, records, continuums, projects, creative performance, task performance, tests/quizzes, journals, participation, student reflections, photos, and narratives.

How is assessment information reported/shared with parents?

Written: Google Classroom (updated regularly for grades 6-8), Educate -report cards (twice a year), SeeSaw (grades K-5) standardized assessment records (twice a year, student reflection on the Learner Profile (twice a year) and Unit of Inquiry student reflections (sent home after each unit of inquiry and/or added to the portfolio(K-5)).

Conferences: Parent-teacher - Student conferences (twice a year), email and/or phone calls.

Portfolios: Annunciation uses the online digital portfolio system, Seesaw, to store and share student portfolios. Each student's portfolio is a purposeful collection that includes evidence of growth, thinking, creativity and reflection. Evidence is demonstrated through a variety of mediums (video, writing, art, audio and print). Portfolios include evidence selected by the student and the teacher from each unit of inquiry. The portfolio also includes field trip reflections, learner profile self-assessments (two per year) and multiple writing samples.

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