

# Foundation Skills Assessment - FSA

The **Foundation Skills Assessment** is an annual, province-wide assessment of British Columbia students' academic skills, and provides a snapshot of how well BC students are learning foundation skills in Literacy and Numeracy. These are assessments for students in Grades 4 and 7.

The FSA is not optional unless students meet a very narrow set of requirements for exemption.

HCOS will be administering the assessments and families receive a package in order to carry them out at home. Here is some information to help you and your child prepare for the tests.

There are two categories of assessment; the assessments in total take about four hours. Here are the categories:

- Literacy
- Numeracy

The FSA will take your child about 4 hours to complete over a few days during a four week writing period. The assessments include online and written questions and a reflection activity.

The written parts of the assessment will be marked by teachers from HCOS and the results sent to your support teacher.

## The results will be based on the following proficiencies:

- **Extending** – Sophisticated understanding of the concepts and competencies in relation to expected learning.
- **Proficient** – Complete understanding of the concepts and competencies in relation to expected learning.
- **Developing** – Partial understanding of the concepts and competencies in relation to expected learning.
- **Emerging** – Initial understanding of the concepts and competencies in relation to expected learning.

## FSA Questions and Answers

What does FSA stand for?	FSA stands for Foundation Skills Assessment and this test is given to all students in BC enrolled in grades 4 and 7.
What subjects are tested?	The student is tested in Literacy and Numeracy.
What is an invigilator?	An invigilator is a person responsible for supervising a test. The invigilator for the FSAs is either a teacher (in our case, with HCOS) <b>or</b> any person the administration deems as unbiased. This can be the parent of the child.
What time is involved for each test?	About 2 hours for each of the two sections.

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