

Reporting Update



29TH MARCH, 2018

NATIONAL STANDARDS ARE OUT. NOW WHAT?

National Standards have been removed by the Government. Schools are still required to report to parents twice per year, but each school can choose what to report on and how to report.

There have long been expected achievement levels in New Zealand, based on the NZ Curriculum Levels and supported by information gathered over many years from standardised testing such as the School Entry Assessment. National Standards mandated the way schools were required to report this information, but the practice of assessment in schools, did not necessarily change. For us at TGS, our system for assessing students, monitoring their progress and determining where they are at, in relation to where they should be, hasn't changed with the addition or removal of National Standards.

ASSESSMENT AT THE GARDENS SCHOOL

We assess students to inform our teaching, so that we know what students need to do NEXT in order to keep making progress. Assessment is not simply about applying a "level" or "grade" to a child.

Assessment takes many forms. There is still a place for standardised testing and at TGS we use a wide range of assessment tools which are standardised or "normed" against national levels. These standardised assessments provide us with one part of a student's achievement picture. Assessment is also carried out by teachers during the course of the teaching day - this happens during conversations with students, observing how they interact and contribute in group tasks, the contribution they make to class discussions, their understanding and ability to carry out follow up tasks accurately and independently and their classwork. Teachers consider ALL these things when they decide whether a child is working AT the expected level for their time at school (Year 0-3) or their year group (Years 4-8).

OTJ: OVERALL TEACHER JUDGEMENT

We have chosen to continue using an OTJ in Reading, Writing and Maths, which will be updated twice per year, for all students.

The advantage of using an OTJ is that it gives you as parents a clear indication of whether your child is where they need to be, in the core curriculum areas of Reading, Writing and Maths. These OTJ's are based on time at school (in 20 week increments) for students in Years 0-3 and at the mid and end point of the year, for students in Years 4-8. OTJ's will continue to be updated in Linc-Ed, as they were in 2017. These are still under the title "Achievement", but you will notice that the words "National Standard" no longer appear in the statements.

Why Linc-Ed?

We live in an increasingly digital world, where people connect with each other online and find, share and receive information via social media, websites and Apps. Schools need to keep pace with this change and many schools are making the shift to digital reporting. The advantage of Linc-Ed is that it not only includes achievement information, but it also combines a learning portfolio for each student, giving parents an ongoing picture of what kids are actually doing at school. The ability to share “rich content” e.g., photos, videos, slides, student work samples and assessment information is more relevant and timely than a twice yearly, text-heavy report, which could be out of date by the time the assessment had been done and the report had been written and checked by school leaders. In our collaborative teaching environment, Linc-Ed also allows multiple teachers to share learning information for each student, so you can see what your child has learned in Chinese, what they have created in Art, or designed to show their understanding of an inquiry topic, or even just listen to them read a story, or explain a maths strategy.

WHAT STAYS THE SAME?

- Achievement statements in Reading, Writing and Maths, updated twice per year
- Effort in Reading, Writing and Maths “*Outstanding, Good, Improvement Needed*” - may be updated at any time during the year
- Goals in Reading, Writing, Maths, Digital Literacy and Self-Management, updated regularly during the year
- Learning evidence in Reading, Writing, Maths, WINGS and a range of Specialist Subjects, termly
- WINGS comments (Wonder, Innovate, Nurture, Grow, Succeed), twice per term (1 x Topic based and 1 x General)
- ESOL information for students who receive funded ESOL support, termly
- Attendance summary, updated continuously over the year

WHAT'S NEW IN 2018?

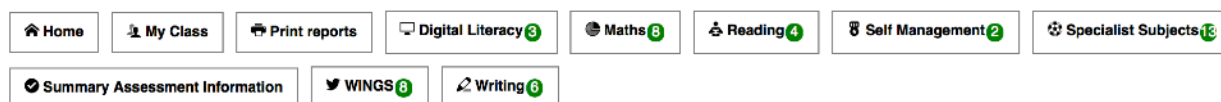
We are excited to have a number of new updates to Linc-Ed in 2018.

Summary Assessment Information: We have added an assessment page to your parent-account. This page will provide you with an ongoing summary of assessment information, in the areas of reading, writing and maths. Depending on the age of the student, these assessments would generally be updated twice per year, but not necessarily at the same time. Information at the top of the Summary Assessment Page explains the assessments included, in more detail.

Progress Charts: On each student's Reading, Writing and Maths pages we have added a progress chart. This graph gives you a visual indicator of your child's progress. The plot points are based on their OTJ, made twice per year. Curriculum bands are very wide and progress is still being made, even if the plot point doesn't always go up within 6 months, likewise, a downward slope does not mean they have gone backwards, simply that the rate of progress may have slowed, when compared to their age going up. The purpose of these charts is to look at progress over an extended period of time.

Report Summary Download: We understand that there are occasions when parents require a printed summary report e.g., when applying for high school. We have added a feature where you can download a summary of your child's current learning information, including achievement, current goals, WINGS comments and summary assessment information (please note the assessment summary on the printable report does not appear until the start of the new term).

Please note that Linc-Ed automatically generates a report tab from the year a child starts school, however our Linc-Ed summary reports are ONLY accurate from 2018.



Note the new buttons for “Print Reports” and “Summary Assessment Information”.



The Gardens School

Expected Levels of Achievement

The below table outlines the expected levels of achievement, based on time at school and year level. You will notice that many levels overlap and some bands are very wide, spreading across two years of school. At TGS we do not believe in pushing students up through the levels quickly, as this only leads to problems later on, when gaps are found. If you have any questions about your child's progress or achievement, please make a time to come in and see their teachers, as they will be able to give you a full picture of where your child is currently at.

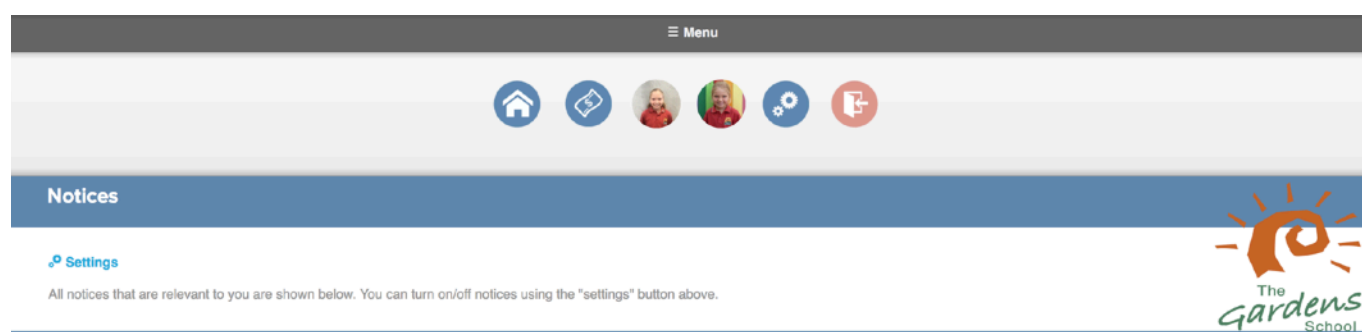
Expected levels of Achievement at The Gardens School							
After 1 Year of School	After 2 Years of School	After 3 Years of School	End of Year 4	End of Year 5	End of Year 6	End of Year 7	End of Year 8
New Zealand Curriculum Level							
Within Level 1	At Level 1	Towards Level 2	At Level 2	Towards Level 3	At Level 3	Towards Level 4	At Level 4
PM Reading Level/ PROBE Reading Age							
Green L 12 - 14	Turquoise L 17 - 18	PM L 21 – 24 or PROBE 7.5-8.5yrs	8.5 – 9.5 years	9.5 – 11 years	10.5 – 12 years	11.5 – 13 years	12.5 – 14 years
Maths Strategy Level – JAM/GLOSS Maths Assessment							
Stage 2-3 Counting From One	Stage 4 Advanced Counting	Early Stage 5 Early Additive	Stage 5 Early Additive	Early Stage 6 Advanced Additive	Stage 6 Advanced Additive	Early Stage 7 Advanced Multiplicative	Stage 7 Advanced Multiplicative
e-asTTle Level B=Basic P=Proficient A=Advanced							
1B – 1P	1A	2B	2P – 2A	3B	3P – 3A	4B – 4P	4P – 4A
<i>Please note: e-asTTle writing is for all students, Year 1-8, Maths and Reading begin in Year 4</i>							

Logging in to Linc-Ed

Linc-Ed is connected to the email address we have on file for each parent/caregiver. It is vital that you let us straight away if you change your email address, so that this can be updated in our system.

To log in for the first time, enter your email address using this link [HERE](#) and you will be sent an email with a temporary password. Instructions on how to change your password or run Linc-Ed from your smartphone, are in every school bulletin.

Once logged in, click on the "Menu" button and the icons for finances, settings and each of your children will come up. All your children are attached to the one parent account, but each photo takes you to their personalised learning pages.



Parent-Teacher Interviews

Parent-Teacher interviews will continue, as in previous years. For students in Years 0-3, these will be timed around their OTJ's being made and teachers will contact you directly, to make a suitable time for a meeting. For Years 4-8, a mid-year interview will be held. We also encourage you to attend our other parent information events throughout the year, as these are targeted to particular age groups, or subject areas and can provide you with valuable information to support your child, at home.



Need More Info?

Our School Website has a comprehensive section on curriculum, with each of the main subject areas broken down into year levels, making it very easy to see what your child needs to know and be able to do, at each stage of their learning journey.

Click [HERE](#) to check it out!

Wonder Innovate Nurture Grow Succeed