

# Why is my child not getting letter grades?



## Why move to the Provincial Proficiency Scale?

When you were in school and the teacher returned a test or assignment, chances are that everyone in the class rushed to compare their marks. The marks encouraged comparison instead of focusing on what students were learning.

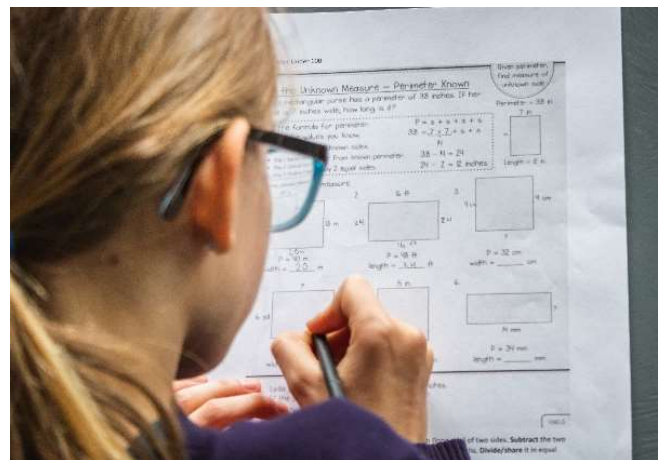
If your child is in Grades K-9, you won't see letter grades on their report card. Instead, you will see information on where your child is on the Provincial Proficiency Scale. The proficiency scale makes learning the focus rather than the comparison with others.

The proficiency scale lets you know where your child is in their learning, and what they need to work on. Along with the information provided by the proficiency scale, you will receive written comments from your child's teacher to give you even more information about what your child can work on.

If your child is in Grades 10-12, you will continue to see letter grades and percentages. You will also see written comments because descriptive feedback will now be part of all report cards in Grades K-12.

## In grades K-9 the proficiency scale:

- maintains high standards
- makes learning the focus
- shows you where your child is at
- lets you know what your child still needs to work on
- helps students continue their learning, even after assignments are returned and report cards are received
- has a place for all learners



## The Provincial Proficiency Scale

Emerging

Developing

Proficient

Extending

### What does the scale tell me about my child's learning?

Students come to school knowing different things. And the things they know shape what they learn next.

Your child will likely be Emerging or Developing at different times in the school year and in different areas of learning. But they will not always start at Emerging or Developing at the beginning of the school year. And it won't just be at the end of the school year that they get to Proficient.

Proficient does not mean learning stops. If a child starts with Proficient understanding or gets to Proficient during the school year, the goal for them is to further their learning.



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### Emerging

Emerging doesn't mean your child is not successful in an area of learning. It means they are beginning to understand something. They are still learning but may need more support to move ahead.

### Developing

Like Emerging, Developing doesn't mean that your child is not successful in an area of learning. It means they understand some things but still have other areas to work on.

### Proficient

**Proficient is the goal for your child.** It's also the goal for all students. When your child is Proficient, it means they fully understand the required learning. But it doesn't mean their learning stops.

### Extending

Extending is when your child shows a deeper understanding and is able to apply their learning in new and different ways. Extending is not the goal for all students in every area of learning.