

Mildred Helms Elementary IB World School

Assessment Policy

What are our views?

Assessments help us become an impactful learning community that develops knowledgeable lifelong learners. According to [What is an IB education?](#), teaching is informed by assessment which plays a crucial role in supporting and measuring learning. Assessment is used to evaluate our curriculum and the effectiveness of our teaching practices. Our learners and learning community are informed about achievement and progress. This data is used to guide decision making that will support the learning community in building conceptual understandings, knowledge and skills.

What is our purpose?

Assessment:

- Informs teaching practice and promotes learning.
- Identifies what students know, understand, and can do.
- Helps students set goals and make decisions to achieve those goals.
- Informs the community about learning achievement and progress.

What are our guiding principles?

Assessment capability in teachers includes the awareness of and understanding of:

- why and what to assess
- what constitutes quality
- how to assess
- what data is being collected, analyzed, and reported
- shared language for discussions about assessment
- the collaborative and inclusive process of assessment

Learners become assessment capable when they:

- reflect on what they have learned, including how to make improvements in their learning
- co-design learning goals and success criteria with teachers
- self-assess and discuss their progress with others
- select evidence of their learning
- develop the skills needed to reflect and plan next steps for learning using feedback

What are our essential agreements?

- Assessment is authentic, ongoing and informs planning and instruction.
- Equitable assessment is authentic.
- Assessment involves collaboration between teachers and students.
- Learning outcomes and the learning process are assessed.

What are our practices?

- Ongoing assessment embedded throughout the units of inquiry.
- Student self-assessment, reflection, and peer feedback are utilized regularly.
- Student IB Portfolios and Data Folders house student work and progress.
- State and District Standardized Assessments are utilized for progress monitoring of ELA, Math and Science.

What is our responsibility?

- Report learning to the learning community via parent teacher conferences, SAC Meetings and general reporting through school communications
- Collaboratively reflect on data from assessments
- Staff members attend IB professional development on assessment

PYP: From principles into practice *Emphasizing the central principle of agency and threading it through the pillars of the curriculum: the learner, learning and teaching, and the learning community* has been referenced in the creation of this document.