

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Here is some information for you to consider before you read your child's report card. We are using the Ontario report card and we will discuss your child's progress using the required terminology and achievement level descriptors from the Ontario Curriculum documents.

Many people will wonder how their children can bring home perfect or near perfect assignments and not receive "Level 4 (A- to A+)" grades. To better understand why very few students will achieve "Level 4", we need to clarify what each level means. This chart will give you a picture of each level.

The Government has determined that "Level 3" is the desired provincial standard. As a school, we are trying to evaluate with consistency throughout the grades.

Here is a summary of a typical student at each of the four levels.

Level 1 (D- to D+)	Level 2 (C- to C+)	Level 3 (B- to B+)	Level 4 (A- to A+)
<p>Learning is a challenge for this student. The child needs the same experiences as a Level 2 student, but does not achieve mastery. Adult support continues to be needed. The child has difficulty listening and learning in a group and needs considerable individual help to begin and follow through with tasks. Often the student's work needs to be accommodated e.g., provide extra time. The student's program needs to be slowly paced with many extra opportunities to learn in different ways and to practise and review regularly.</p>	<p>This is a student who needs to be taught new skills/concepts and have a variety of experiences to discuss/practise/drill/review before there is mastery. Then the child can work fairly independently and will begin to apply the skill/concept in different ways. The child's work shows understanding and is generally correct. The child makes a good attempt to give oral/written explanations and uses the terminology/facts provided by the teacher.</p>	<p>This is a strong student who learns new skills/concepts easily. With an introductory lesson, the student can make connections to previous learning and can usually work with independence and accuracy right away. The child does not need much time to practise or review before showing mastery. The child usually understands oral/written instructions quite independently. In group lessons, the child listens attentively and is able to recall terminology, strategies, and facts readily and accurately.</p>	<p>This is a well-above average student. The student does everything that a Level 3 student does, and goes beyond. This child is a complex thinker who can apply skills/knowledge and generate new ideas that are innovative and creative. The child questions and searches out new knowledge independently. The child's oral and written responses are more detailed and thorough, consistently showing more than is required. The student is very confident and willingly can be a risk-taker when solving problems.</p>