

# Parents Should Know: FSA Tests Are Not Useful

The FSA is a province-wide standardized test administered to all Grade 4 and 7 students across BC. It is not a required part of the BC curriculum.

## What teachers believe

- The FSA is not a reliable method of measuring an individual child's progress and was not designed for this purpose.
- The misuse of FSA testing results by the Fraser Institute and other corporate entities creates misleading school rankings that misrepresent the results and harm school communities.
- Data collected from the test is not protected from being used to rank schools.
- Better models of provincial assessment with protections to ensure the ethical use of students' data are possible.

## What teachers are doing

- Teachers are asking parents to withdraw their children from participation in the Grade 4 and Grade 7 FSA assessments, according to Ministry of Education and Child Care guidelines concerning exemptions.
- Teachers are calling on the provincial government to shelter all data collected on student achievement in order to alleviate any undue harm caused.
- Teachers continue to use a wide range of assessment tools in their classrooms to support student learning. This allows teachers to monitor progress and adjust their teaching to meet student needs.
- Teachers will continue to work with parents and others in the education community to find assessments that are educationally sound and work for everyone.



## What you can do

- Parents can ask school principals to withdraw their children from the FSA tests, according to Ministry of Education and Child Care guidelines concerning exemptions. There is a withdrawal letter and form available on the [bctf.ca](http://bctf.ca) website.
- Talk to teachers about the assessments they use to support learning.
- Ask the provincial government to shelter all student data from being used to unfairly rank schools and cause undue harm to communities.

For further information: [bctf.ca](http://bctf.ca)