

ASSESSMENT POLICY
Pierrefonds Comprehensive High School

“Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn.”

– Benjamin Franklin

At Pierrefonds Comprehensive High School, students are evaluated in order to support their learning, gain encouragement throughout the learning process, and promote positive attitudes towards learning. Assessment should ultimately foster critical, creative, and reflective thinking skills. For teachers, evaluation should not only inform the students, but also help teachers reflect on and improve their own pedagogical strategies.

Evaluation tasks must respect the Quebec Ministry of Education (Ministère de l'Éducation et Enseignement Supérieur), which relies heavily on competency-based learning outlined in the *Quebec Education Plan*. IBMYP assessment tasks must respect the criterion-based learning outlined in *MYP: From Principles Into Practice*, as well as the subject-specific guides. It is a teacher's responsibility to provide relevant, coherent, and constructive feedback to students and parents/guardians in a timely manner. Self-assessment and self-reflections also serve to enhance the learning process.

We are a community school and understand the varying learning abilities of all our students. In order to ensure success for each student, teachers might make adaptations to assessment tasks where appropriate. Oftentimes a student's IEP (Individual Education Plan) and feedback from The Learning Centre (Resource Department) will guide teachers in this area.

The academic year is divided into three terms of approximately 60 days each. Term 1 and 2 are weighted at 20% each, Term 3 is weighted at 60%.

Ministry Report Cards

There are four formal evaluations of students:

- October: An interim report card consisting of academic and behavioural comments.
- November, February, June: Students are given numerical grades using prescribed subject-specific competencies for each course. Comments can also be added.

In order for students to graduate, they must obtain 60% in the following:

- Secondary IV - History and Citizenship Education, Science, Mathematics, Art
- Secondary V - English Language Arts, French, and either Ethics and Religious Culture or Physical Education.

IBMYP Report Cards

For Years 1 to 4:

- IB students are graded using assessment tasks that evaluate the MYP assessment criteria described in each subject guide.
- Teachers are expected to assess all strands of all four assessment criteria at least twice in each year of the MYP.
- In June, IB students are awarded a grade (out of 7) using these criteria. The grades are reported on an IB report card issued by the school. The eight IB subjects are represented on this report card, as well as an indicator on whether or not Community and Service hours have been fulfilled. An Interdisciplinary grade will be provided as of 2016-2017.
- Students also receive a school issued “progress report” (filled out by the student’s Supervisor) indicating the student’s progress on the Personal Project at the end of Year 4.

For Year 5:

To be eligible for the MYP certificate, students must:

- Receive a minimum grade of 3 (out of 7) on the Personal Project
- Receive a minimum grade of 3 (out of 7) on e-Assessed subjects (Language acquisition, PHE, Language and literature, Integrated humanities, Mathematics, Integrated sciences, Interdisciplinary)
- Based on the aforementioned marks, receive a minimum total of 28
- Complete their Community and Service requirements
- Participate in the programme for at least the final year

Students are informed as to whether they have obtained their IB certification once results are received by the school, usually by September. Students are invited back to PCHS for an “IB diploma ceremony” at which their certificates and records of achievement are formally presented to them at a reception held the following June.

- Students also receive a school issued “progress report” (filled out by the student’s Supervisor) indicating the student’s progress on the Personal Project at the beginning of Year 5.