



30 July 2010

Dear Parents

Reporting on National Standards

Included in your child's Mid-Year Report, teachers have assessed your child's achievement in relation to the newly implemented National Standards.

The aim of National Standards is to set clear expectations that students need to meet in reading, writing and mathematics in their first eight years of school.

This letter is written to explain some of the key features of National Standards to help in the reading of your child's report.

Timing of Reports

Teachers will report in writing, twice a year, mid-year and end of year, on the Standards. Students will receive an Interim Report, which assesses the students' progress towards the Standards, and an End Report which assesses achievement against the Standard.

In terms of the timing of reporting, a significant difference is that for students in Years 1-3, National Standards are for the anniversary of the child's entry into school. That is;

- After 1 year of schooling
- After 2 years of schooling
- After 3 years of schooling

Therefore, dependent on when your child started school, you could receive an Interim Report at the end of the school year, or an End Report, in the middle of the school year.

Children within their first year of schooling would only receive an Interim Report if they have had a full (or close to) two terms at school.

For students in Years 4-8, Interim Reports are mid-year and End Reports are at the end of the year.

N.B. Year 4 only

There will be some children in Year 4 who, at mid-year, will receive an End Year 3 Report because it is the closest anniversary of them having completed three full years at school. At the end of the year those children will receive an End Year 4 Report.

Interim Report

An Interim Report assesses students' progress toward the National Standard. Teachers will assess that progress in one of four ways;

1. *Sam* is already achieving above the National Standard
2. *Sam* is already achieving at the National Standard
3. *Sam* is on track to achieve the National Standard, if current progress is maintained.
4. *Sam* will need higher levels of progress and achievement to reach the National Standard.

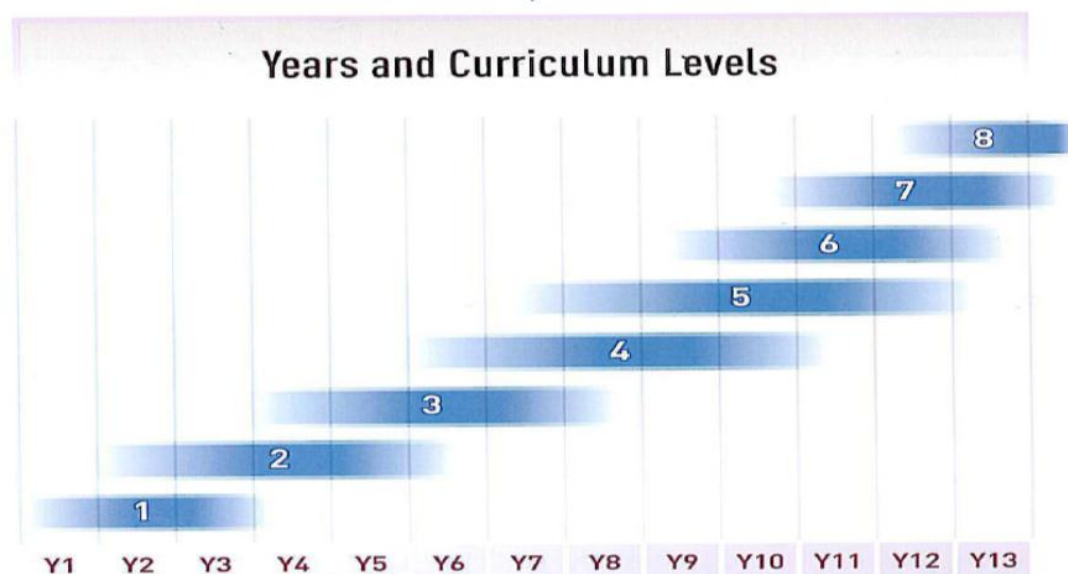
End Report

An End Report assesses students' achievement against the National Standards. Teachers will assess that achievement in one of four ways;

1. Above
2. At
3. Below
4. Well Below

NZ Curriculum Levels

Apart from the first three reading standards, National Standards are directly related to the NZ Curriculum levels. NZC levels are made up of a number of achievement objects within each learning area. The diagram below shows how curriculum levels relate to year levels.



The Standards

This table shows the National Standards and their respective curriculum levels (L)

	Maths	Reading	Writing
After 1 year of school	at early L1	at Green level*	within L1
After 2 years of school	at L1	at Turquoise level*	at L1
After 3 years of school	at early L2	at Gold level*	towards L2
End of Year 4	at L2	at L2	at L2
End of Year 5	at early L3	towards L3	towards L3
End of Year 6	at L3	at L3	at L3
End of Year 7	at early L4	towards L4	towards L4
End of Year 8	at L4	at L4	at L4

*These are levels of the 'Ready to Ready' series that most NZ schools use within reading programmes. The colours represent reading ages;

Green	5.10	–	6.0
Turquoise	7.0	–	7.5
Gold	8.0	–	8.5

I hope that you find this information useful when reading your child's first National Standard report.

Kind regards



Craig McCarthy
Principal