



Ministry of Education, Youth & Information  
Student Assessment Unit

# Primary Exit Profile

*“Bringing Abilities to Light”*



Frequently Asked Questions  
2017

*Every Child Can Learn, Every Child Must Learn*

## Frequently Asked Questions

The following frequently asked questions pertain to the Primary Exit Profile (PEP).

### 1. What is PEP?

The Primary Exit Profile (PEP) is a series of assessments that will replace the existing Grade Six Achievement Test (GSAT). PEP will provide a profile of where the student is academically, the student's strengths and weaknesses, and their readiness for grade 7. PEP will assess students' knowledge, in addition to placing increased emphasis on assessing 21<sup>st</sup> century skills including critical thinking and communication.

### 2. What is the purpose of PEP?

PEP has several purposes:

- It will measure students' readiness for grade 7.
- It will function as a means of placing students in secondary schools.
- It will provide accurate information about students' knowledge, ability, and skills across several subject areas.

### 3. What are the components of PEP?

PEP consists of three key components, a Performance Task, an Ability Test and a Curriculum Based Test:

- The **Performance Task (PT)** consists of real world scenarios that will require students to apply their knowledge and skills from the following subject areas: Mathematics, Science, Language Arts, and Social Studies. The PT will be administered in grades 4, 5 and 6. It will be administered by the classroom teacher at school.
- The **Ability Test** requires students to read analytically and use quantitative reasoning skills in responding to items. It will **NOT** be based on the curriculum.

- The **Curriculum Based Test (CBT)** will assess **grade 6 content only**, in the areas of Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and Language Arts. This test will consist of multiple choice items along with other item types. The CBT will be administered close to the end of Grade 6.

#### **4. When will the first component of PEP be administered?**

PEP will be implemented on a phased basis, in an effort to ensure that ALL students are adequately prepared for the first administration. The examination will be implemented in the following ways:

- i. Those students who are currently in Grade 5 will be the first PEP cohort. They will do **only** the Grade 6 components in 2019.
- ii. The students who are currently in Grade 4 will do their Grade 5 Performance Task in 2019 and in 2020 they will do the Grade 6 components.
- iii. Students who are currently in Grade 3 will be the first cohort that will have a **complete profile** generated; that is, they will do the grade 4 PT in 2019, grade 5 PT in 2020 and ALL grade 6 components (PT, CBT and AT) in 2021.

#### **5. How will each component of PEP be weighted?**

The proposed weighting for PEP is as follows:

- Ability Test – 30%
- Curriculum Based Test and Performance Tasks – 70%

#### **6. How will PEP be different from GSAT?**

PEP will place emphasis on determining the extent to which students are able to use their knowledge of content, and skills they developed to solve problems. This is a key difference between PEP and GSAT. GSAT focused primarily on content and assessing student *knowledge* of the subject

area, whereas PEP foundations are built on the notion that *competency* involves both student knowledge and what a student is able to do with the knowledge they possess.

**7. What time of year will each component of PEP be administered?**

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Ability Test</b>	<b>Performance Task</b>	<b>Curriculum Based Test</b>
6	Term 2	Term 1	Term 3
5		Term 3	
4		Term 3	

**8. How will my child be placed in a secondary school?**

The placement mechanism will remain the same with students having seven (7) school choices. The assessment results will also be made available as is customary during the third week of June.

**9. Will I be able to defer my child sitting the PEP to the next year?**

As with the GSAT if a candidate has not exceeded a given age he or she may be allowed to sit any component of PEP in the year that follows.

**10. How will the Performance Tasks be administered?**

The Performance Tasks will be administered within the students' individual classrooms by their respective classroom teachers.

The student will complete the Performance Tasks under the supervision of the teacher; therefore, they will not be allowed to complete these tasks at home.

The Performance Tasks will be done within fixed time frames within classroom contact time.