



Category: Students

Policy: 202

Approved date: January 18, 2018

Revised:

# **Grade Promotion and Benchmarks Policy**

## **PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY**

This policy is to state the best practices employed by ASCEND Online regarding grade promotion in relation to checkpoints and benchmarks in grades three, six and nine. This policy is to provide guidance as to how ASCEND Online can effectively address the requirements for addressing Ministry Provincial Curricular Competencies in grades kindergarten through nine.

## **GRADE PROMOTION/RETENTION**

Promotion through the grades is determined through teacher summative and formative assessment together with consultation with parents, or guardians, regarding the child's readiness. If retention is being considered, then Administration is included in the process.

## **ADDRESSING MINISTRY CURRICULAR COMPETENCIES - BENCHMARKS**

The Ministry of Education has established benchmark years to help students stay on track. Benchmark years of grades three, six and nine have been established. K-3 Curricular Competencies are to be completed by the end of grade three. Grades four to six outcomes are to be completed by the end of grade six. Grades seven to nine outcomes are to be completed by the end of grade nine. Failure to address the Curricular Competencies by the end of those grades is considered seriously. A decision to develop an



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Individual Education Plan or delay student promotion to the next grade may occur. This decision is made collaboratively with parents, teacher(s), administration, and the student (if appropriate).

## **OUR PROCESS**

Teachers are responsible to track the Curricular Competencies that are covered by each student over the course of each school year. The Student Learning Plan will highlight competencies that have been addressed and the level to which they have been mastered (Beginning, Developing, Applying, and Extending).

At the start of the new school year the Teacher is responsible to review their completion status to date. The teacher uses this information when completing the Student Learning Plan for each student, ensuring that any missing competencies will be addressed in that school year. Parents also have access to this information at any time throughout the school year.

Particular attention is paid to students entering grades three, six, and nine.

Throughout the school year, the teacher is responsible to monitor the progress and level of mastery of each of the Curricular Competencies. The teacher will make adjustments to the student's studies as needed to target completion of the Competencies by year end.