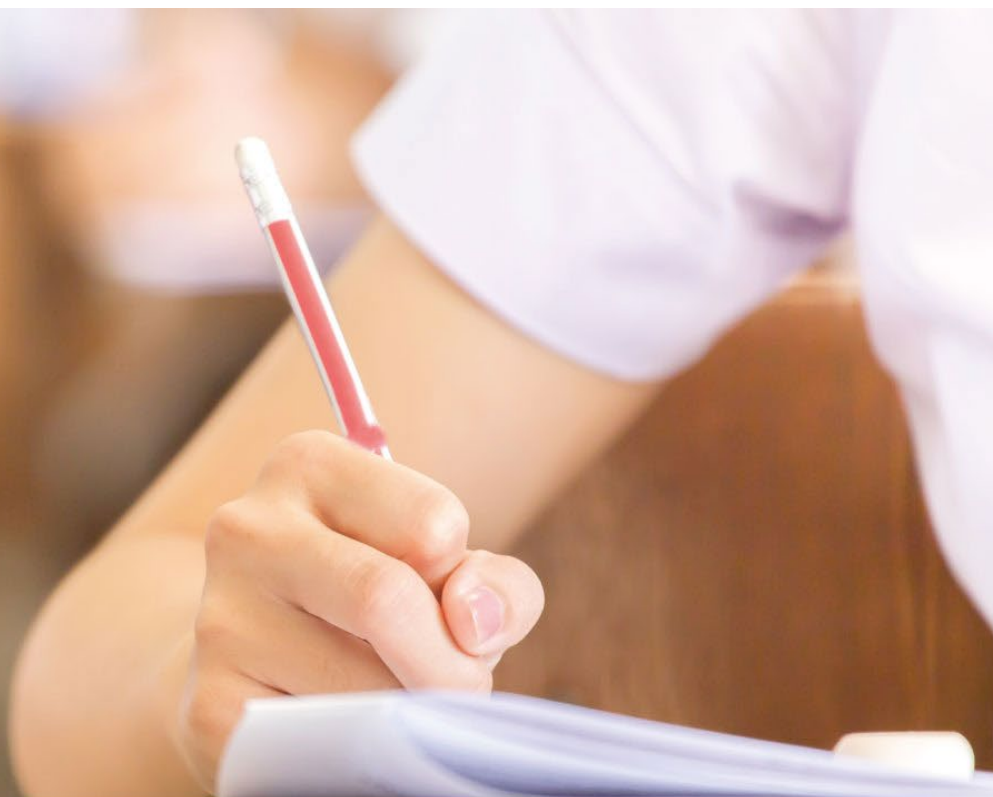




دائرة رأس الخيمة للمعرفة
RAS AL KHAIMAH
DEPARTMENT OF KNOWLEDGE



August 2025

ASSESSMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK

Private School Assessment Requirements for Academic Year 2025 - 2026

Summary

Ras Al Khaimah Private School Assessment Requirements for Academic Year 2025 - 2026

The UAE National Agenda prioritizes educational excellence and strives towards a high-quality education system aspiring to be among the top 20 countries in the world in the **‘Programme for International Student Assessment’** (PISA) test, and in the top 15 countries in the **‘Trends in Mathematics and Science Study’** (TIMSS) test.

RAK DOK recognizes the importance of equipping today’s generation with new tools, knowledge, and skills to enable success in a future world. In preparation, all private schools in Ras Al Khaimah will be required to administer online statutory assessments as detailed in the tables that follow.

All private schools must ensure they administer the specified requirements in **Tables A** and **B**.

1. **Table A** provides an overview of the ‘Mandatory Assessments for Ras Al Khaimah Private Schools.’
2. **Table B** details the online ‘External Benchmark Assessments’, appropriate to the curriculum, by grade and subject. Schools are to select **one** External Benchmark Assessment, by curriculum, from Table B.
3. **Table C** provides Assessment Provider Information.

Table A: Mandatory Assessments for Ras Al Khaimah Private Schools

International studies and standardized benchmark assessments		Targeted grades/ years	Number of students
1	International assessments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) ▪ Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) ▪ Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 15-year-olds ▪ Grades 4 and 8 ▪ Grade 4 	Sample (as informed by MoE)
2	External Benchmark Assessments in Arabic, Mathematics, Science, and English (Refer to Table B, as recommended for each curriculum)	All grades from 3 to 9	All students
3	CAT 4 (or any equivalent)	Grades 3, 5, 7 & 9	All students

Assessments that measure cognitive development must:

1. Be applicable and relevant for all students,
2. Measure cognitive abilities in at least four areas of reasoning: verbal, non-verbal, quantitative, and spatial,
3. Measure cognitive reasoning skills without any reference to a specific curriculum or required subject knowledge, i.e., the test must be completely independent of any prior curriculum knowledge.
4. Ideally, provide forecasts for the typical future attainment of students with similar cognitive profiles across different years/grades in external examinations for the major international curricula in private schools – E.g., IGCSE, A-level, IBDP.

5. Provide schools with comprehensive data analyses and reports on gaps and skills development for all grades, with detailed and clear identification of improvement paths for each student/teacher/group/year, and for the school, and
6. Measure cognitive development for students from grades 3-9 different grades using the same assessment tool. The data analysis and results for each student should be comparable with the benchmark, curriculum-linked assessments (below) that your school chooses to use.

Table B:

Statutory External Benchmark Assessments

All schools, except UAE MoE curriculum schools, conduct **CAT4 assessments** (or equivalent) for students in Grades 3, 5, 7 and 9, plus **ONE external benchmark assessment** from the Table below.

Note: External Benchmark Assessment for Arabic is recommended (but not compulsory) for all foreign curricula schools in Academic Year 2024/25 *but will be compulsory for all students Grades 3 to 9 in Academic Year 2025/26.*

Commented [CV1]: In addition, foreign curricula schools are also expected to conduct an external Arabic benchmark assessment for all students in Grades 3 to 9 from Academic Year 2025/26 onwards.

Curriculum	External Benchmark Assessment (online versions only) * Any equivalent test with an approved provider	Subjects	All students in Targeted Grades
UK	<ul style="list-style-type: none">GL – PT Test series (PTE, PTM, PTS)ACER – IBT or ABT or other appropriate external benchmark assessment	English, Mathematics, Science Arabic	Grades 3 to 9
US	<ul style="list-style-type: none">NWEA – MAP (three times per year)ACER – IBT or ABT or other appropriate external benchmark assessment	English, Mathematics, Science Arabic	Grades 3 to 9

IB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NWEA – MAP ▪ GL – PT Test series (PTE, PTM, PTS) ▪ ACER – ISA ▪ EI – ASSET ▪ ACER – IBT or ABT or other appropriate external benchmark assessment 	English, Mathematics, Science Arabic	Grades 3 to 9
SABIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NWEA – MAP ▪ GL – PT Test series (PTE, PTM, PTS) ▪ ACER – ISA ▪ EI – ASSET ▪ ACER – IBT or ABT or other appropriate external benchmark assessment 	English, Mathematics, Science Arabic	Grades 3 to 9
Indian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EI – ASSET ▪ ACER – IBT ▪ ACER – IBT or ABT or other appropriate external benchmark assessment 	English, Mathematics, Science Arabic	Grades 3 to 9
Pakistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EI – ASSET ▪ ACER – IBT ▪ ACER – IBT or ABT or other appropriate external benchmark assessment 	English, Mathematics, Science Arabic	Grades 3 to 9
Bangladesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EI – ASSET ▪ ACER – IBT 	English, Mathematics, Science Arabic	Grades 3 to 9

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ACER – IBT or ABT or other appropriate external benchmark assessment 		
UAE MoE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ACER – IBT Arabic, English, Mathematics & Science ABT (The International Benchmark Test for Arabic Subjects) The Test of Arabic Language Arts (TALA) EMSAT (Achievement) 	Arabic, English, Mathematics and Science	Grades 3 to 9

Commented [AJ2]: Do we want to add Diglossia ??

Additional Information

1. Schools may also offer additional assessments at their own discretion.
2. Schools which implement dual curricula, should implement the External Benchmark Assessment for both, e.g., US curriculum stream = MAP, and UK curriculum stream = GL PT series.
3. Schools must select and administer the **online** version of their selected External Benchmark Assessments.
4. The expected costs, testing windows and dates for the External Benchmark Assessments are shown in Table C and should be confirmed by schools when liaising with the external assessment providers.
5. The responsibility for all costs associated with the administration of the External Benchmark Assessments (as per Table B) rests with each school, and schools are responsible for funding the assessments.
6. Schools who select the MAP assessments must administer the assessments three times per year.
7. RAK DOK strongly encourages schools to seek support from the external assessment providers regarding available professional development and training opportunities.
8. The data generated from all External Benchmark Assessments will be made available to RAK DOK through the assessment provider. The assessment providers will ask schools to sign 'data sharing agreements.' Please ensure that 'data sharing agreements' are signed with your assessment provider.

9. Ensure that all Emirati students can be identified in the school data.
10. In the event of specific individual school circumstances, please contact RAK DOK directly at info@dok.rak.ae.

Table C:
Assessment Provider Information*

Assessment Provider with contact details	Assessment	Administration	Administration Window	Cost (for all three subjects) Note: costs may change, and schools should contact the provider directly for an accurate cost
NWEA Snr. Account Manager: Mr. Mohamed Elleathy mohamed.elleathy@nwea.org +1 (816) 507-4823 Technical support UAE: techSupport@wea.org 800 032 1101	MAP	T1 (Fall) T2 (Winter) T3 (Spring)	Fall: 15 August to 30 November Winter: 1 December to 28 February Spring: 1 March 1 to 15 June	AED 60 – AED 70 per student (bundle based, three rounds)
EI Admin & Logistics Head at Sage: aakash@sageuae.com 050 4882914 (Aakash R)	ASSET	T2	10 January to 4 March	AED 84 per student
ACER - ISA: Contact Aloka Maitra Aloka.Singh@acer.org or ISA-ME@acer.org 04 2830124/ 04 2830120	ISA (International School's Assessment)	T2	Fall: 21 September to 2 October OR Winter: 8 to 19 February	AED 100 per student

ACER - IBT: Contact Sheena Joseph Cherian Sheena.Joseph@acer.org or uae@acer-ibt.org 04 2830124/ 04 2830120	IBT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> English, Mathematics, Science and Reasoning Arabic (Language, Listening, Writing) 	T1	1 to 30 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AED 35 – AED 90 per student (based on number of subjects) AED 35 – AED 45 per student (based on subject selection)
ABT Contact Mohammad Gamal Support@abt-assessments.com 050 3842666	ABT	T1 T2 T3	Sep Round: 1 Sep to 30 Nov. Feb Round: 15 Jan to 31 March. May Round: 15 April to 30 June.	AED 99 per student (3 subjects, two rounds)
GL International Consultant, UAE Samina Y. Al Balooshi Samina.al-balooshi@renaissance.com 054 5041108 International Account Manager, UAE Rajpreet Randhawa Rajpreet.Randhawa@gl-education.com +44 (0)7919 001 893	CAT 4		26 Aug to 1 Nov 1 April to 1 Nov (CBSE Schools)	AED 72 per student
	Progress Tests (PT)	T3	28 April to 27 June	AED 85 per student (3 subjects)

*RAK DOK will consider additional external benchmarking assessments from other providers that are not listed in the above table on a case-by-case basis.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Will our school receive support if we require additional hardware to administer the assessments successfully?

Schools must provide their own hardware for online administration of the External Benchmark Assessments at school. This may mean assessing groups/class of students over a longer test window. The request for a longer testing window should be negotiated with the assessment provider.

2. As we are an American school, do we have to administer MAP Growth assessment three times in the academic year?

Yes. All schools selecting the MAP Growth assessment must administer it three times during the academic year.

3. Can our school administer other assessments in addition to the mandatory standardized assessments?

Yes. Your school may do other assessments in addition to the External Benchmark Assessment.

4. What do we do if we offer more than one curriculum in school?

Dual curricula schools must administer the External Benchmark Assessments according to the appropriate curriculum. This may mean that standardized Benchmark Assessments from different assessment providers are administered at your school during the academic year.

5. Are any students exempt from the mandatory External Benchmark Assessments?

All students should be encouraged to undertake the online External Benchmark Assessments selected by your school, however, please work with your assessment provider to ensure your students with individual specific needs may be accommodated. In exceptional circumstances, students may be exempted at the discretion of the school executive. This information will also need to be documented and explained in school inspections.

6. Are any modifications available for SofD students?

Some of the External Benchmark Assessments are optionally offered with modifications for students with specific needs. Please contact your standardized Benchmark Assessment provider for more information.

7. Will data accrue from the mandatory Standardized Benchmark Assessments be directly shared with RAK DOK?

Yes. Schools will be asked to sign a 'data sharing agreement' with the assessment provider, allowing data to be passed directly to RAK DOK. Many schools already have agreements in place.

8. Will student attainment and performance data be shared and used by UAE MoE Quality Evaluation/ inspection teams?

One of the benefits of introducing mandatory assessments will be that the school inspections team will have access to externally generated, reliable school data to use for triangulation with other information, thereby better informing accurate decisions and recommendations.

9. Is it mandatory that data accrued from mandatory Standardized Assessments be reported to parents?

The assessment providers will supply schools with reports at the school, class, and individual student levels. The results from the Standardized Benchmark Assessments will provide schools with information on students' achievement and progress. These assessments allow comparison of similar-aged students from other populations and help teachers understand strengths and weaknesses in their class and at an individual student level.

Each school will be placed on the learning continuum, and schools may need time to engage with the data to fully understand its use and power. The decision regarding how and when results are communicated to parents and students will rest with each school. The sharing of this information with parents will ultimately develop greater transparency and promote a collaborative environment for supporting and preparing students for future learning experiences.

RAK DOK, committed to creating a dynamic and inclusive learning environment that cultivates creativity, innovation, critical thinking, and character development, remains available to support schools in strengthening their assessment literacy and leveraging acquired data for continuous educational improvement.

Revision History

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