

SMART Assessment Tool Information

This term is the first testing window for the new Ministry of Education SMART (Student Monitoring, Assessment & Reporting Tool) assessment tool to take place. SMART assesses a student's reading, writing and mathematics using a digital platform. The test will be sat during school time in Mathematics and English classes. The information gathered from the assessments will inform teaching and also be used to generate achievement reports for 2026.

The following image has some additional information about the SMART tool. You can also access a practice test that will give you an idea of what the assessment is like ([SMART practice tool](#)).

SMART

Student Monitoring, Assessment & Reporting Tool

1 What is SMART?

SMART (Student Monitoring, Assessment & Reporting Tool) is a new assessment tool being introduced this year for schools and kura across New Zealand. It's designed for students in Years 3-10 and helps teachers understand where your child is in their learning and what they're ready to learn next. The tool assesses: Reading, Writing and Mathematics



2 What happens during the assessment?

Your child completes the assessment at school, during normal class time. It takes around 30 to 45 minutes, depending on their year level, and the questions are designed for their age group. SMART is designed to be easy to use and to support the widest range of school and kura needs. If your child needs extra support (such as more time, larger text, or audio) their teacher can arrange this.



4 How can I support my child's learning at home?

You don't need to prepare your child for a SMART assessment, it's designed to reflect what they're learning in class. But there are always ways to support learning at home:

- Talk with your child about what they're learning at school
- Look for everyday opportunities to practise skills (like reading together, measuring while cooking, talking about stories)
- Ask your child's teacher if you'd like more ideas for home support
- Head to the MoE [Parent Portal](#) for resources and a mathematics practice tool if you want to help at home

3 What does SMART tell us?

SMART gives really rich information about how your child is learning and progressing, and is designed to support the new curriculum. After each assessment, your child's teacher will have a clear picture of:

- What your child can do: the skills and practices they've shown they have
- Where they are in their learning: how they're progressing through the curriculum
- Their next steps: what they're ready to learn next.

