Inclusive Assessment Program (IAP)

SEPLA Conference

Workshop – Day 1

High quality assessment practices that cater for the diverse learning needs of students

Monday 22 July 2024 Educational Standards





Acknowledgement of Country



We recognise the Ongoing Custodians of the lands and waterways where we work and live. We pay respect to Elders past and present as ongoing teachers of knowledge, songlines and stories.

We strive to ensure every Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander learner in NSW achieves their potential through education.

Session objectives



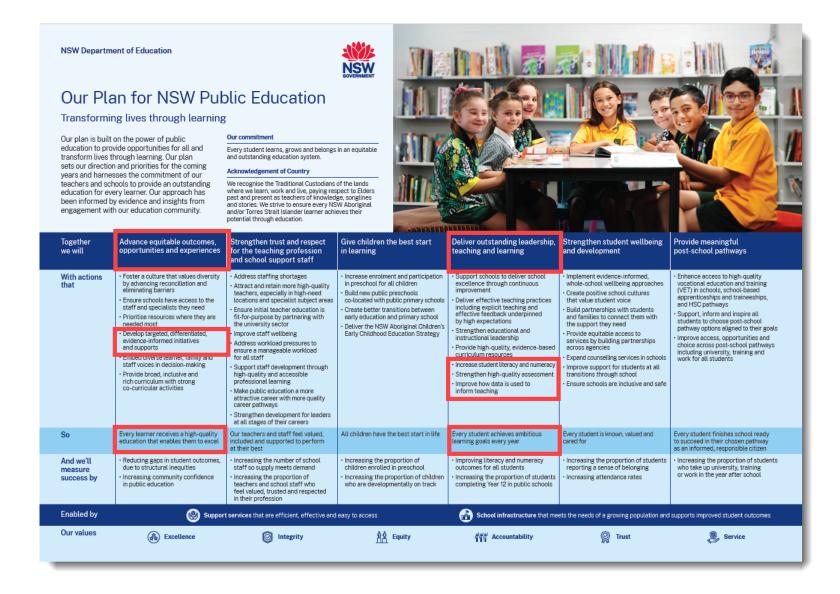
In this workshop, you will have the opportunity to explore:

- which assessment tool/s to use, when and why
- how these tools align with the new syllabus outcomes
- how they can be used for reporting and identifying students' next steps
- examples of schools already successfully using the IAP tools.



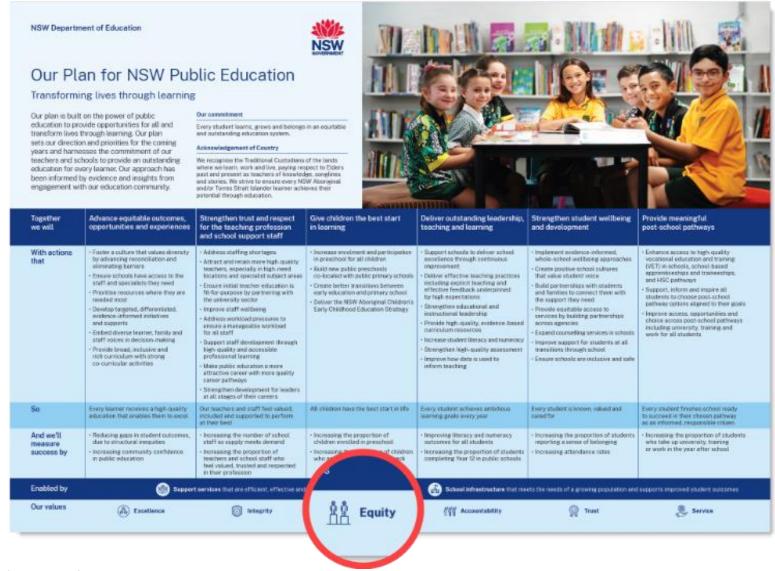
Supporting the NSW Plan for Public Education





Supporting the NSW Plan for Public Education





Our Plan for NSW Public Education (nsw.gov.au)

Challenges assessing students with complex learning needs

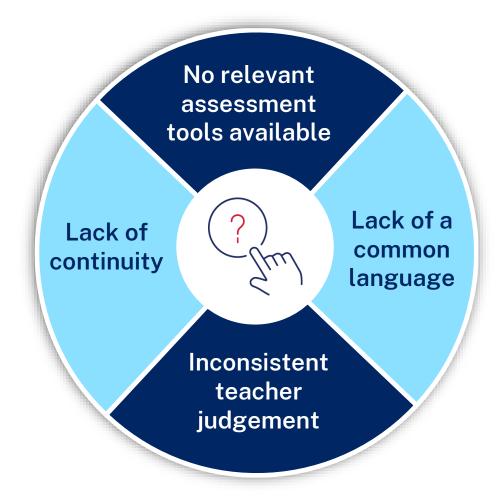




- "There is **not enough information** about what works well for students with disability"
- "We will **build a better understanding** of how all students are progressing in relation to their learning, well-being and independence."
- "We are committed to building a more inclusive education system, one where all students feel welcomed and are learning to their fullest capability."

Challenges assessing students with complex learning needs





Inclusive Assessment Program



The Inclusive Assessment Program (IAP), formerly known as the Assessment for Complex Learners (AfCL) project, provides educators with *optional* assessment tools for students with complex learning needs.

This could include students:

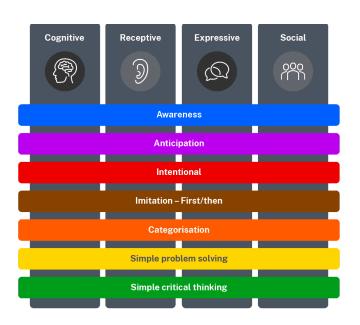
- with moderate to severe intellectual disability or mild intellectual disabilities requiring extensive support for emotional regulation or physical disabilities
- who need support developing their early language and learning skills, particularly if non-verbal and/or pre-intentional in their communication.



Assessment tools



Passport for learning



Literacy and Numeracy Precursor Indicators

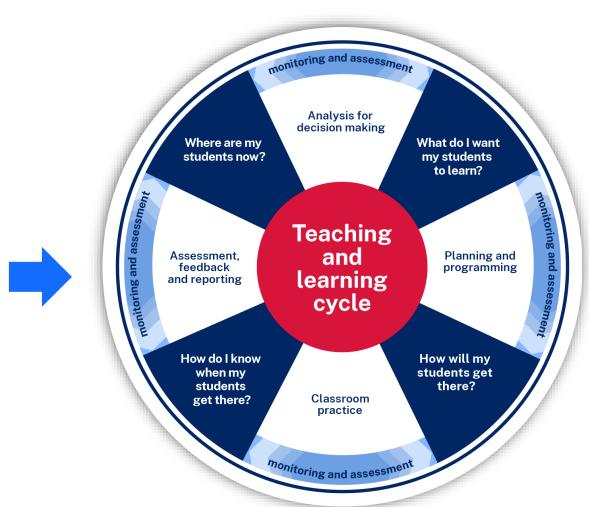


Enables students to:

- have their own voice
- become more independent
- improve social and emotional regulation
- be the best learner they can be
- encourage meaningful learning.

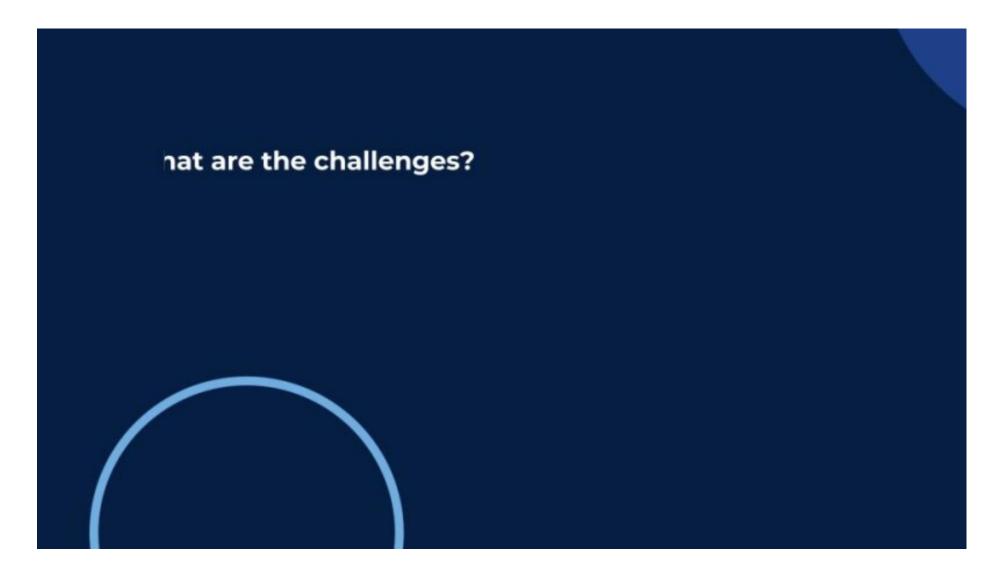
Supporting the teaching and learning cycle





Teacher feedback





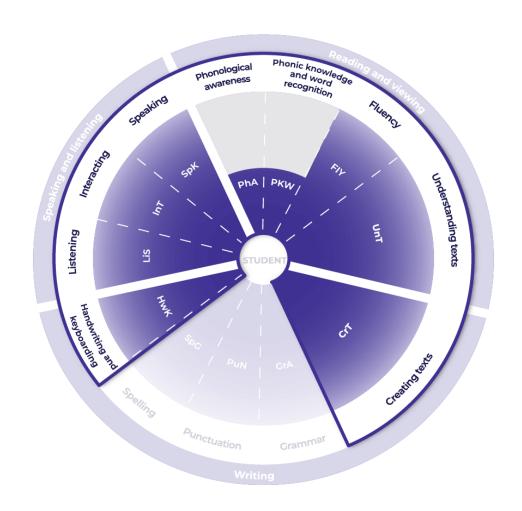


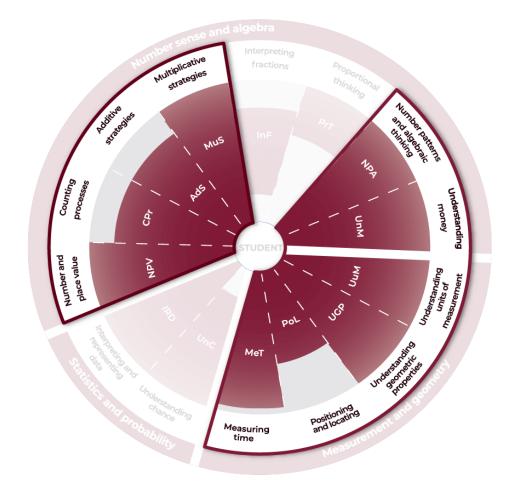


Literacy and Numeracy Precursor Indicators

Literacy and Numeracy Precursors sub-elements



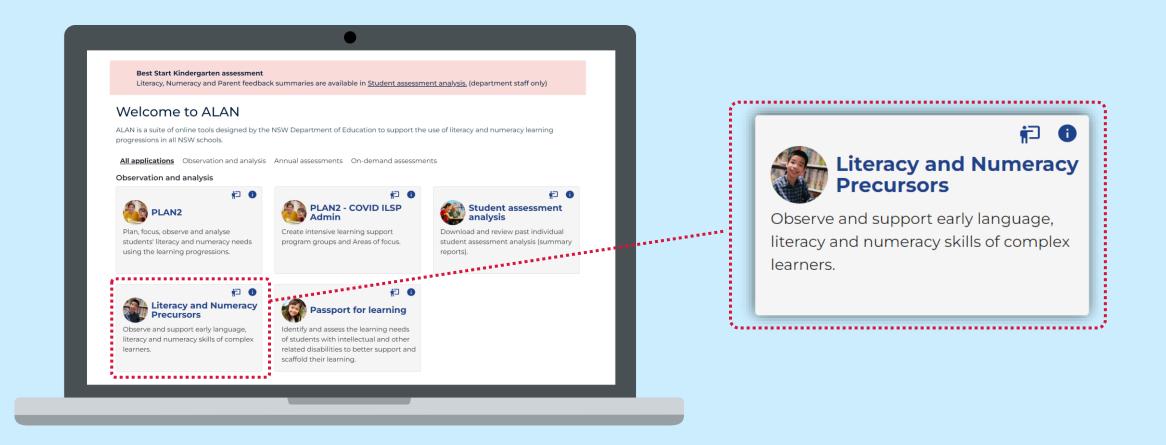




Literacy and Numeracy Precursors app

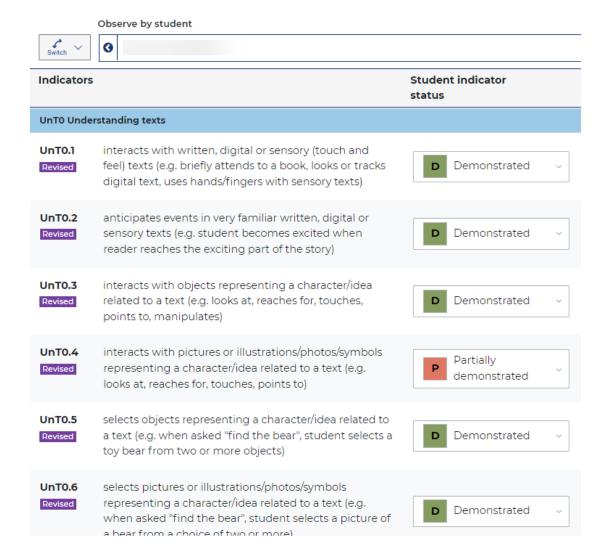
NSW GOVERNMENT

Online tool in ALAN



Using the data on student progress







What can students do

Forming learning groups





Areas of focus

Differentiating learning





Next steps

Analyse data from the L&N Precursors



Using data to inform practice and develop learning goals



	Observe by student			
Switch ~	0			
Indicators		Student indicator status	Interactional prompts	Comments
CrT0.2 No change	interacts with objects in relation to the target vocabulary or learning context (e.g. looks at, reaches for, points to, manipulates)	C Consolidated v		
CrT0.3 Revised	matches objects in relation to the target vocabulary or learning context with one or more distractors	D Demonstrated ~		
CrT0.4 Revised	matches pictures/photos/symbols in relation to the target vocabulary or learning context with one or more distractors	D Demonstrated ~		
CrT0.5 Revised	selects objects to contribute ideas to a shared text (e.g. when an educator and student are jointly creating a story or recounting an event, student looks at a ball)	Not demonstrated		
CrT0.6 Revised	selects photos/pictures/symbols to contribute ideas to a shared text (e.g. when an educator and student are jointly creating a story or recounting an event, student touches a picture of their parent)	Not demonstrated		



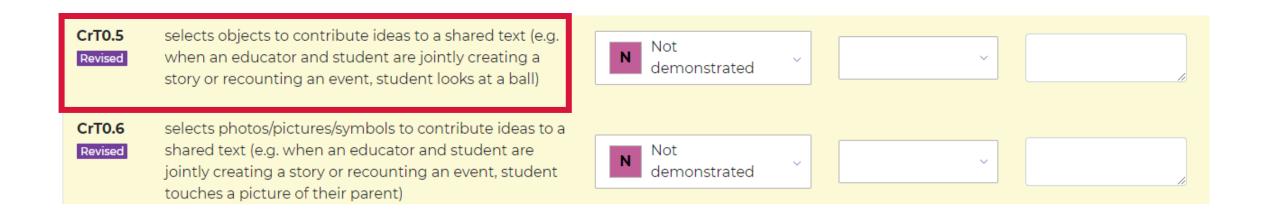
Linking:

- syllabus outcomes
- access content points
- Literacy and Numeracy Precursor Indicators





Literacy and Numeracy Precursor Indicators



Next step for this student: focus on contributing ideas to a shared text.



Access content points

Creating written texts

ENE-CWT-01

creates written texts that include at least 2 related ideas and correct simple sentences

Access content points	Precursor indicators	Case Study
Participate in creating texts with others	 selects objects to contribute ideas to a shared text (CrT0.5) selects photos/picture/symbols to contribute ideas to a shared text (CrT0.6) 	Jessica is working towards achieving this access content point.
Use photographs, pictures, symbols to create texts	 selects photos/picture/symbols to contribute ideas to a shared text (CrT0.6) 	Jessica is working towards achieving this access content point.

>



Access content points

Creating written texts

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Learning goals

Access content points	Precursor indicators	Case Study
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Use photographs, pictures, symbols to create texts	 selects photos/picture/symbols to contribute ideas to a shared text (CrT0.6) 	Jessica is working towards achieving this access content point.







L&N Precursors student vignettes Creating texts

Makes marks experimentally

The precursor

Makes marks experimentally (for example, in sand with a stick, with pencil on paper, presses keys on keyboard)

Focus

Develop early prewriting skills by making marks experimentally in a variety of different ways

This could include:

- · using fingers and hands
- · holding and grasping tools to make marks
- using keyboards and technology.

Assess

Consider the needs of the student and provide them with accessible tools. This is particularly important for students with physical disabilities who may not be able to use writing implements for mark making. These students can use technology to make marks, for example eye-gaze technology.

Observe whether the student can make marks. Provide interactional prompts if required and note these down when assessing this indicator. Allow students adequate processing time to demonstrate the skill before providing any interactional prompts.

Adjust

Possible adjustments could include:

- use of sensory/tactile experiences to support mark making (for example, sand, foam, gel boards)
- mark making implements that are appropriately sized to support grasp and physical manipulation
- appropriate colour contrast/background colours to support engagement and students with Cortical Vision Impairments (for example, use of lightboxes or other devices with backlighting)
- use of technology to support mark making (for example, iPads, interactive whiteboards, keyboards-including keyboards with larger keys, eye-gaze technology).





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L&N Precursors student vignetites - creating texts | 10

Where to next

If not demonstrat

Provide the student with multiple opportunities to contribute their ideas to shared texts using photos/pictures/symbols. Reduce the number of options the student must select from if they are not demonstrating this skill. It might be necessary to present just one photolpicture/symbol to begin with, so the student learns that through their interaction with the photo/picture/symbol, they are contributing to the shared text.

Provide additional interactional prompts if required to support the student in achieving this indicator. Always aim to reduce the interactional prompts as the student becomes more competent. Consider the specific needs of the student and ensure appropriate adjustments have been made to support the student in being able to achieve this indicator. This is particularly important for students with physical disabilities or vision impairments that will require specific adjustments to be able to demonstrate this indicator.

If demonstrated

Future directions could be:

- shares ideas using icons and images (Creating texts, level 1)
- . observes others writing with interest and attention (Creating texts, level 1)
- intentionally creates letter-like shapes or strings, experimenting with forms and shapes (Creating texts, level 1)
- composes emergent texts for specific purposes (Creating texts, level 2).

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Annotated example

In this photo the student is contributing to a shared text.

Symbols have been used (with colour contrast).

The student selected the symbol of a bird from a choice of two symbols (bird and feather) to contribute their idea for writing the caption to the picture.



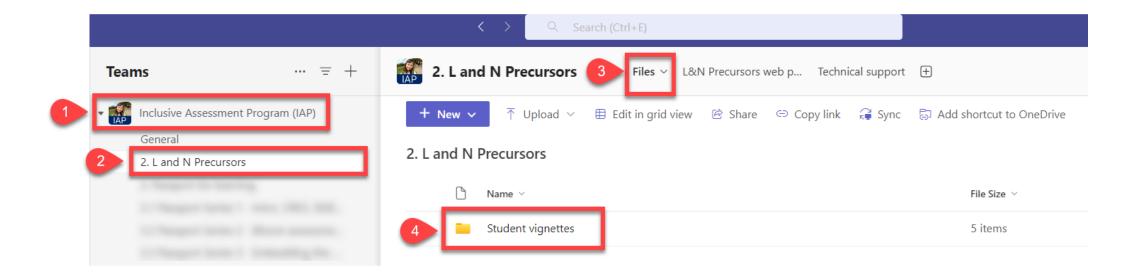


Teaching strategies for shared texts

- Provide multiple opportunities for student to contribute their ideas to shared texts using objects and photos/pictures/symbols on a range of different topics
- Provide exemplars for students by working in groups where they can see others contributing to texts



Student vignettes are located in the IAP Microsoft Team, in the Literacy and Numeracy Precursors files.



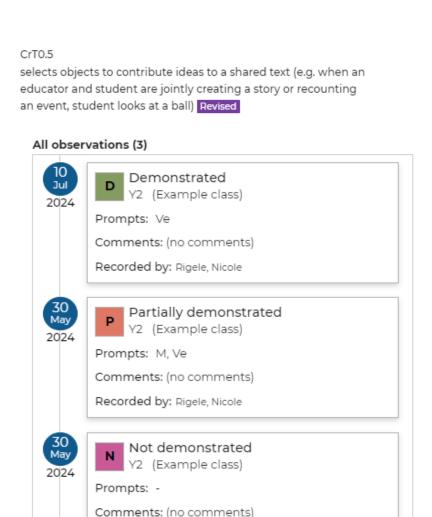
L&N Precursors assessment



Observation history

The 'Observation history' function shows previous data in relation to the student's skill development.

This allows users to view student progress for reporting.



Recorded by: Rigele, Nicole

Reporting

- Celebrate achievement
- Use wording from the Precursor indicators to describe the skill
- This example shows the student is now able to partially demonstrate this skill with a modelled and verbal prompt

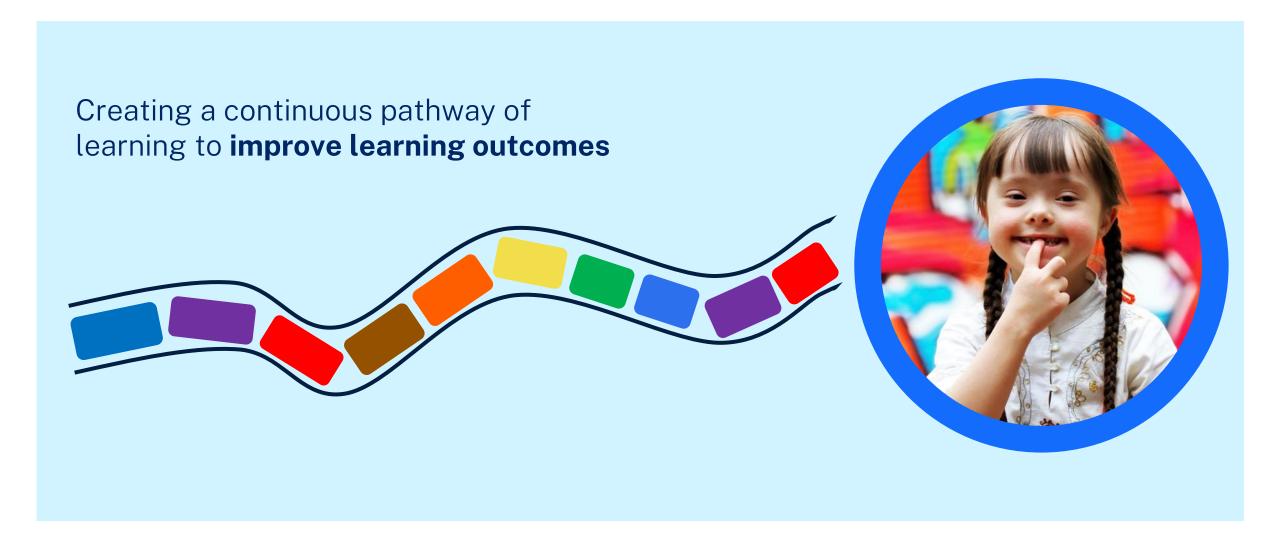




Passport for learning

The Passport for learning



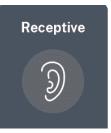


Passport for learning framework



Identifying student capabilities across 4 domains





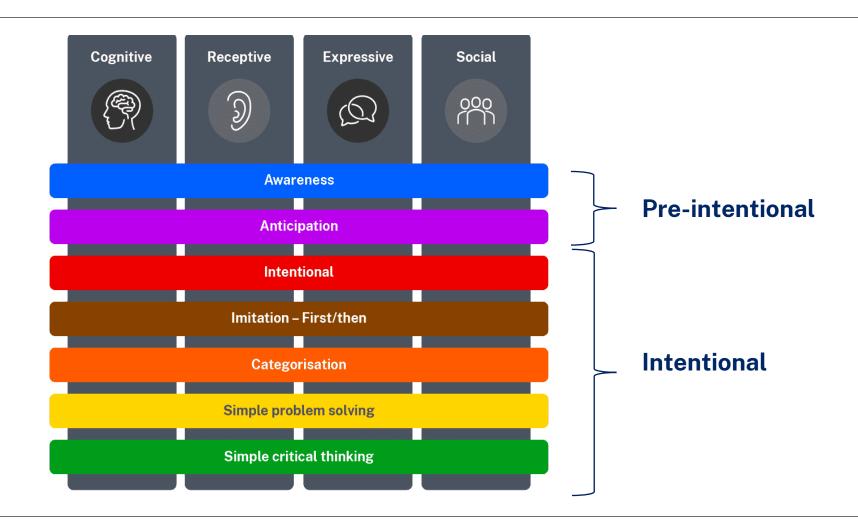




Passport for learning framework



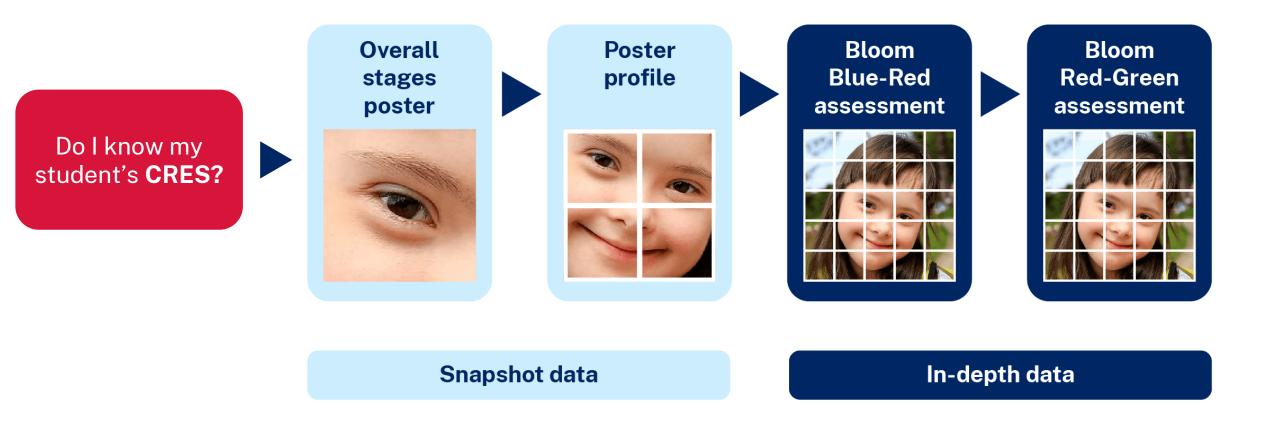
Identifying student capabilities across 4 domains



Poster and Bloom assessments

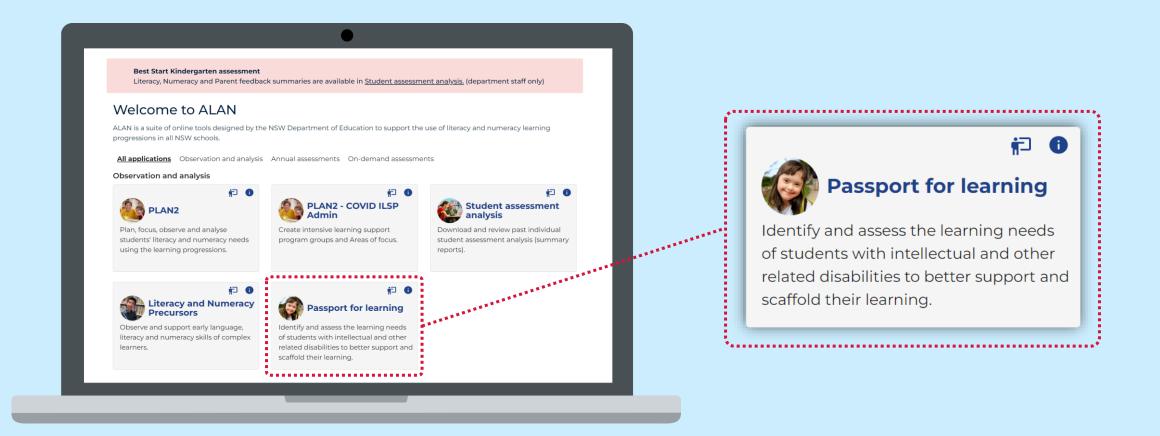


Assessments support us to build a picture of a student



Using the Passport for learning online tool in ALAN

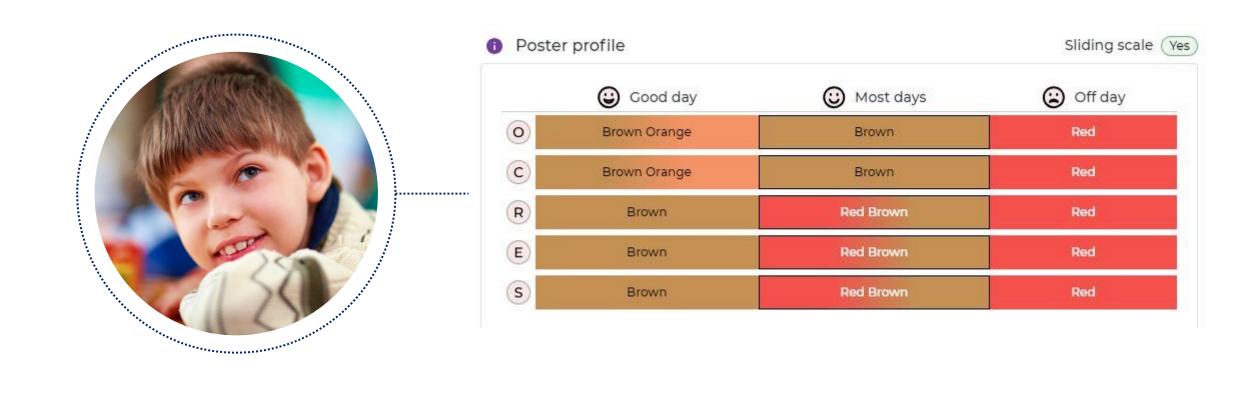




Analyse data from the Passport's poster profiles

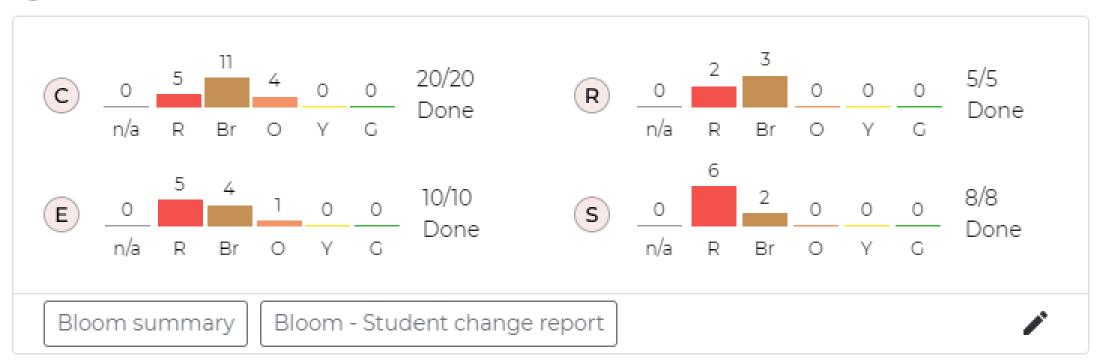


Using data to inform practice



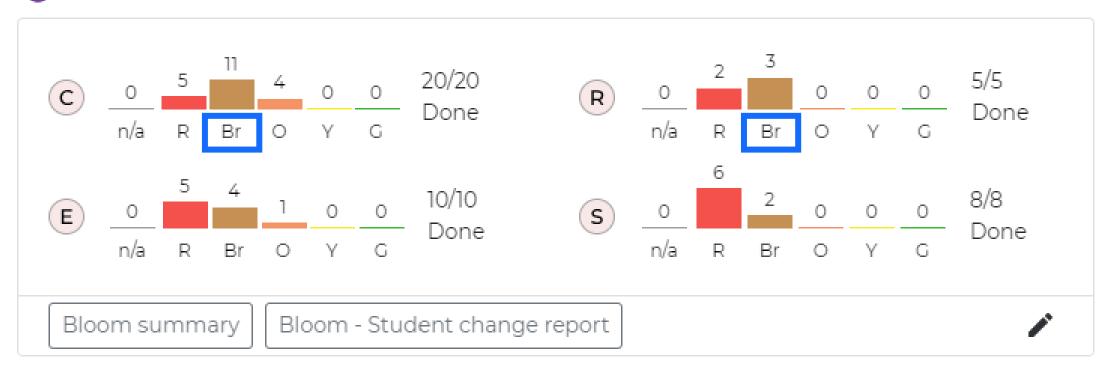


Where to next with your student's Passport Bloom profile?



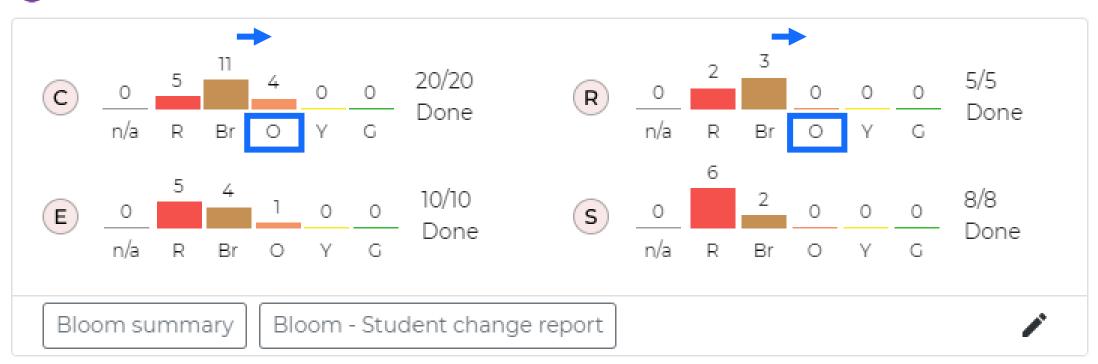


Where to next with your student's Passport Bloom profile?



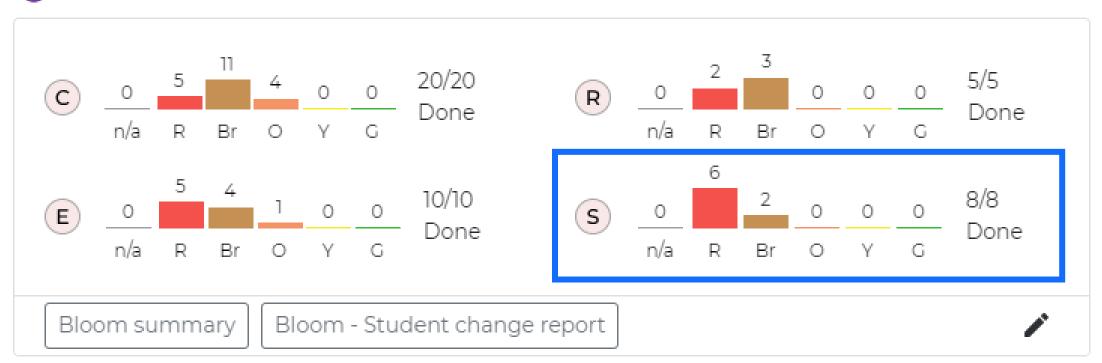


Where to next with your student's Passport Bloom profile?





Where to next with your student's Passport Bloom profile?



Where to next?



Linking syllabus outcomes, access content points and data from the Passport

English Syllabus – Oral language and Communication

Oral language and communication

ENE-OLC-01

communicates effectively by using interpersonal conventions and language with familiar peers and adults

Access content points

Social and learning interactions

- Accept and reject action, request or comment
- Communicate needs and express feelings
- Initiate a social interaction

Using data to inform teaching and learning



Question		Notes		
E3 Use messages, spoken words, phrases or sentences E3a Can the student use a range of spoken words or messages consistently?				
•		🕤		
Select passport colour				
Intentional Red	Imitation and first-then Brown	Categorising Orange	Simple problem-solving Yellow	Simple critical thinking Green
Use up to 15 messages or spoken words within familiar routines, activities, environments and with familiar people Messages include but are not limited to personalised signals, body movements, body posture, facial expressions, eye gaze, gestures, pointing, vocalisations, word approximations, objects, object symbols and personalised photographs.	Student can use 15-100 single messages or single spoken words spontaneously within context (for example, within familiar routines, people, using familiar objects and realistic pictures). Messages are the same as red, with the addition of realistic pictures.	Student can use 300 messages or spoken words, including using phrases or sentences of three to four messages or spoken words. Messages are the same as brown, with the addition of realistic line drawings (for example, a realistic picture from an internet search or a realistic Picture Communication Symbols TM).	Student can use over 1,000 messages or spoken words, using phrases or sentences of three to six messages or spoken words. Messages are the same as orange, with the addition of abstract line drawings (for example, abstract line drawings from an internet search or abstract Picture Communication Symbols TM).	Student can use between 2,000-3,000 messages or spoken words, using phrases or sentences of over eight messages or spoken words. Messages are the same as yellow, with the addition of more abstract line drawings (for example, abstract line drawings from an internet search or abstract Picture Communication Symbols TM).

Using the Teaching strategy posters

Inform teaching and learning program



Intentional - Red



Expressive

Ensure this learner is expressing themselves often and working towards expressing over 15 messages regularly

Messages may include personalised signals, vocalisations, body movements, body posture, facial expressions, eye gaze, gestures, pointing, objects, object 'symbols' and personalised photographs.

Respond consistently to this learner's signals and messages

 Make sure all main communication partners respond in the same way and repeatedly to this learner's signals and messages.

Create opportunities for this learner to expand their vocabulary

- Build key points into most activities or routines where this learner must use or repeat a word or message.
- Ensure this learner has easy access to their vocabulary (via chat mats, vocabulary walls, posters, books, sentence strips, folders and/or their own communication system).
- Model a key word or phrase and pause, with an expectant look or gesture. Wait for this learner to imitate the word (using spoken language, visuals, a keyword sign, pointing and/or their own communication system).

- Build on this learner's messages to encourage them to combine words into 2-word phrases.
- Highlight the names of familiar items and demonstrate their uses (functions).
- Model and teach the phrase "What's that?" to expand this learner's vocabulary.
- Encourage this learner to make comments about objects or activities.

Establish asking for 'more' activities

- Pause strategically at a key point, ask "More?" and wait expectantly. Notice and record this learner's response.
- Model and teach this learner to respond using 2-word phrases (for example, "More apple").

Introduce "Do you want ...?" activities for this learner to develop choice-making skills

- Present a known object, person or activity, ask "Do you want...?", pause and wait expectantly. Notice and record this learner's response.
- Regularly model making choices and teach this learner to respond with yes or no in a variety of different contexts and/or using their own communication system.

- Keep highly preferred items out of reach (only keep items in view that this learner can use immediately).
 If this learner makes a request, respond immediately and regularly.
- Once this learner demonstrates they can intentionally choose, offer a choice between 2–4 items using both highly preferred and less preferred items.

Establish opportunities to reject or request items

- Know this learner's likes and dislikes, preferred and less preferred items or activities.
- Offer a range of choices between preferred items and a distractor.
- Model and teach this learner to make requests and reject items or activities using single words and/or non-verbal forms (for example, pointing, eye gaze, smiling, taking the teacher to what they want).

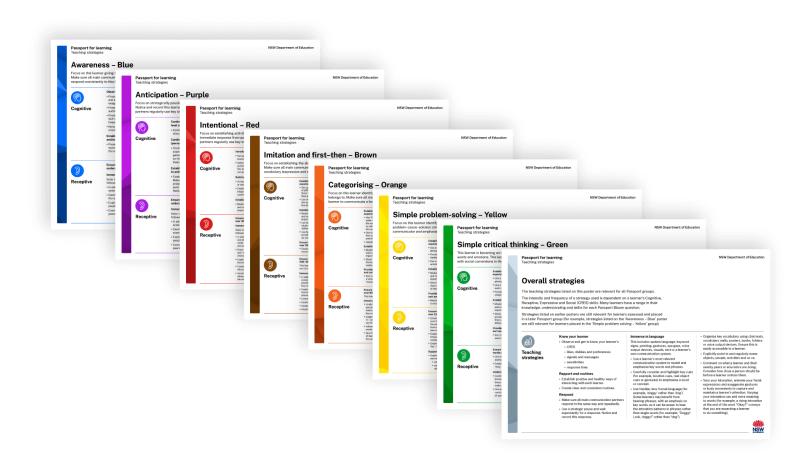
Establish a personal dictionary or learner profile

 Keep a record of this learner's signals and messages.
 Record how main communication partners respond to this learner's signals or messages.

Using the Teaching strategy posters

Inform teaching and learning program

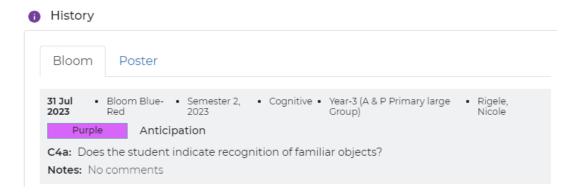




Using the Passport for learning in reporting



- Teachers can use the Passport for learning to demonstrate where students have acquired new skills.
- The online app tracks changes over time and this can be used to make decisions on student progress.
- Use the wording from the criteria to describe the skills the student can do.
- Use the tool to identify next steps or learning goals for the student.



Remember to celebrate the learning success!

Using the IAP assessment tools in reporting





Teachers can use the IAP assessment tools to record observations on the student's skills and knowledge.



The assessment tool allows educators to track changes over time and this can be used to make decisions on student progress.



The tools allow educators to identify next steps or learning goals for the student.





Using data to inform practice

Explicit teaching in NSW public schools



'School-wide explicit teaching approaches incorporate **modelled**, **guided and independent** practice.

Teachers consider students' cognitive load and employ explicit teaching strategies to optimise learning progress of students across the **full range of abilities.**

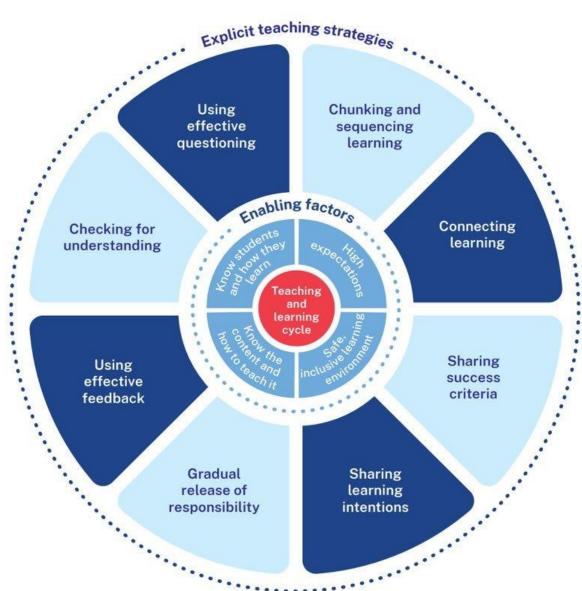
Effective methods are identified, promoted and modelled, and students' learning improvement is monitored, demonstrating **growth**.'

School Excellence Framework, Teaching Domain (p 11)



Explicit teaching





Explicit teaching (nsw.gov.au) 45

Review of educators' use of IAP tools



IAP supports 'What works best' practices



IAP tools







Where do we start?

Different approaches to using the tools



School A

Passport

Fully embedded and all students are assessed using the Passport framework



Precursors

Using one sub-element to link with SIP focus area for all students



School B

Precursors

Fully embedded and all students are assessed using the Precursor sub-elements in line with SIP



Passport

Using the Passport with some students, who require extensive support for communication skills



School C

Precursors

Beginning to implement the Precursors into their assessment schedule.

They have chosen 2 literacy subelements that align with their focus area in their SIP.



Different approaches to using the tools



School A

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School B

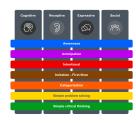
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Different approaches to using the tools



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School C

Precursors

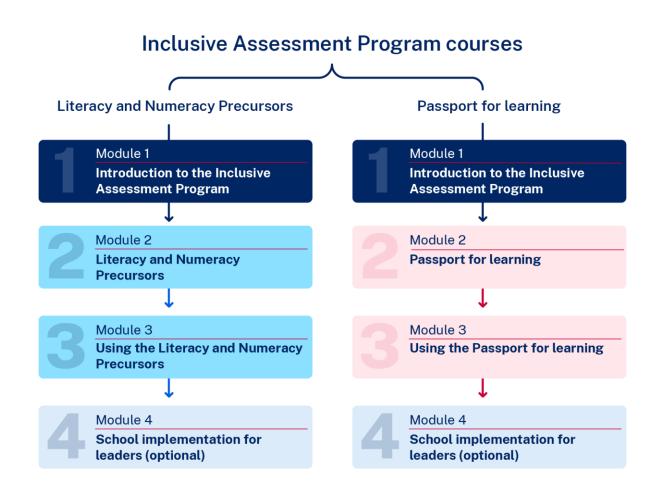
Beginning to implement the Precursors into their assessment schedule.

They have chosen 2 literacy subelements that align with their focus area in their SIP.



MyPL courses available





Literacy and Numeracy Precursors
ID: NR43495

Passport for learning ID: NR43498

Literacy and numeracy through the curriculum

Aligning the tools to syllabus outcomes, access content points



English Syllabus – Oral language and Communication





Listening for understanding

Respond to routine sounds and communications

Links to the **Literacy and Numeracy Precursors**



- reacts reflexively to a sound/stimulus (Lis0.1)
- makes vocalisations or movements in response to people (SpK0.1)
- responds to a sound/stimulus (LiS0.2)
- responds to different intonations (LiS0.3)
- responds differently to different sounds in the environment (PhA0.1)
- responds to own name (LiS0.6)

Links to **Passport for learning** (Bloom Blue-Red)



- Does the student indicate an awareness of auditory stimulus provided by an item or person? Question C1b (B-R)
- Can the student understand spoken words or messages?
 Question R3a (B-R)
- Can the student use a range of spoken words or messages consistently? Question E4a (B-R)
- Does the student respond to their own name? Question S4a (B-R)

Resources available to educators



On-demand assessments





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Phonological awareness diagnostic

The Phonological awareness diagnostic is a quick online assessment that assesses a student's phonological awareness skills.



Phonics diagnostic assessment

The Phonics diagnostic assessment is a quick online assessment that assesses a student's phonic knowledge and skills.







IfSR-NP Number and place value

The IfSR-NP enables a teacher to gain insight into how students apply their mathematical understandings of number and place value.



Plan, focus, observe and analyse students' literacy and numeracy needs using the learning progressions.



Whole-school assessment strategies



- Ensures student-centred approach to teaching and learning
- Delivers evidence-based practices
- Improves school planning
- Enables strong assessment and reporting practice
- Provides a common language for educators

School culture





"To implement these tools you need to take small steps but have deep conversations"

Principal, SSP



Additional support



Microsoft Teams community

Inclusive Assessment Program (IAP)

email

literacy.numeracy@det.nsw.edu.au

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