

DSIB guidance on the administration of the National Agenda Parameter (N.A.P) tests.

1. New National Agenda 2017-18 parameter.

Table A: Mandatory components for all schools

The National Agenda Parameter 2017-2018 components		Requirements	
		Targeted grades	Number of students
1	GL Cognitive ability test – CAT 4	Grades 3, 4, 6 and 8 (UK schools: Years: 4, 5, 7 and 9)	All students in the targeted grades
2	One benchmark assessment in Mathematics, Science and English (Arabic, Mathematics and Science for MoE schools) from those listed in Table B and specific to each curriculum.	All grades from G3 – G9 (in UK schools: All Years from Y4 – Y10)	All students in the targeted grades

Table B: Benchmark tests available according to the curriculum

Curriculum	Recommended assessment (choose one from this list)	Targeted Grades	Number of students
UK curriculum schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GL (PTE, PTS and PTM) ACER (ISA) 	Years 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 (Grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9)	All students in the targeted grades
US curriculum schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NWEA MAP 	Grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9	
Indian curriculum schools (CBSE, CISCE, KSB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASSET ACER (ISA) 	Grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9	
MoE private schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ACER IBT (Arabic version) for Arabic A, Science and Mathematics. 	All available grades.	
IB curriculum schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ACER (ISA) NWEA MAP GL (PTE, PTS, PTM) ASSET 	Grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9	

Others: Pakistani, Canadian, Philippines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACER (ISA) • NWEA MAP • GL (PTE, PTS, PTM) • ASSET 	Grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9	
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Comment 1: The schools that administered CAT 4 for **ALL students** in **ALL grades** from **G2 to G8** (UK schools Y3 to Y9) in 2016, do not have to repeat the CAT4 test again for the same cohort of students in 2017. For further details, please contact DSIB.

Comment 2: For UK curriculum schools, please note that due to the specifics of the GL PT tests, the PTS (Progress Test in Science) is not available for Y7. The schools should administer PTS test for Years 4, 5, 6 and 8. For the details on the Y9 and, the new Y10 GLPT tests, please contact GL directly.

Comment 3: In schools offering the US and another curriculum, NWEA MAP must be used for the grades that follow a US curriculum. For other grades, schools can choose any appropriate test from table 2 (including, if appropriate, MAP).

Comment 4: As a new PISA test will be administered in 2018, the ‘OECD PISA based test for schools’, which was part of the National Agenda Parameter for 2016/17, will *not* be part of the UAE National Agenda Parameter for 2017-18.

Comment 5: For schools administering ASSET or ACER (ISA), only the online version can be used.

Furthermore, please note that:

- Schools that wish to test other grades, in addition to the target grades, are welcome to do so. There are benefits to this approach as it will provide schools with a more complete picture of the performance of their students.
- Using curriculum-specific assessment, along with CAT4, provides schools with the tools to develop a comprehensive external assessment plan, tailored to students’ educational needs. This plan should help schools to ensure better learning outcomes for their students and to monitor their own progress towards achieving the school’s individual UAE National Agenda targets.

- This academic year, grades 3 and 7 (UK schools Years 4 and 8), are of particular importance, as students in these grades will be taking TIMSS in 2019 (the final TIMSS assessment window, prior to the 2021 National Agenda targets deadline).

2. Time frames for administering the N.A.P tests

Test	Time frames for administering the National Agenda Parameter benchmark tests	
GL CAT 4	Online format only. The test has to be completed by 2 November 2017	
GL PTS, PTM, PTE	Online format only. The test has to be administered between: 29 April -28 June 2017 <u>(The students may be tested only once during one academic year)</u>	
ACER ISA	Online format only. The schools may choose from two testing windows: <u>(The students may be tested only once during one academic year)</u>	
	Online and paper format 12 Feb - 23 Feb 2018	Online format only 7 May - 18 May 2018
ASSET	Online format only. The test must be administered between: 1st November 2017- 28 February 2018: <u>(The students may be tested only once during one academic year)</u>	
NWEA MAP	Online format only. The test needs to be administered a minimum of three times within an academic year: Autumn, Winter and Spring. The three testing windows are as follows: (allowing for at least 8 weeks of instruction in between test administrations) Students tested in fall must be tested again in winter and spring	

Test	Time frames for administering the National Agenda Parameter benchmark tests		
	Fall Aug 15- Oct 31 2017	Winter Nov 1- Feb 15 2017	Spring March 1- June 30
ACER IBT (Arabic version for MoE schools only)	Paper format. Testing window will be March - April ; more details will be provided by ACER.		

- All schools are asked to sign a data-release document that will be required by the test providers. All results must be made available to DSIB for further analysis.
- During any of the above tests registration, the schools are asked to **clearly identify all Emirati students.**
- The principal and school leaders are responsible for ensuring the test integrity and security in the design, development, operation, and administration of all assessments, both paper/pencil and online test administrations, to prevent irregularities from occurring.