

# CENTRALISED ASSESSMENT UNIT

## **OBJECTIVES**

- To coordinate assessment developed by Centralised Assessment Unit (CAU) for all government schools in Brunei.
- To provide evidence-based data and comprehensive reports in improving teaching pedagogy and students' learning outcome.
- To determine students' literacy and numeracy competencies based on the Brunei Darussalam Literacy and Numeracy National Standards (BDLNNS).
- To allow continuous and consistent monitoring and tracking of students' learning progress across Year levels for primary to secondary levels.
- To prepare Students for international benchmarking such as Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA).

## **STUDENT ASSESSMENT TRACKER (SAT)**

### **What is Student Assessment Tracker or SAT?**

The Student Assessment Tracker or SAT is the national assessment that measures students' competencies in Literacy and Numeracy as described in the Brunei Darussalam Literacy and Numeracy National Standards (BDLNNS). This assessment also includes a Science domain and, this is still undergoing further development for improvement.

### **What is the purpose of SAT?**

To strengthen the pedagogy and improve students' learning.

### **How are SAT results reported to schools?**

The student transcript is built into the data entry template which contains number and percentage of correctly answered questions and analysis of every question.

### **Is SAT a summative or formative type of assessment?**

SAT is a summative assessment to be used formatively. They provide a measure of student learning as described in the National Literacy and Numeracy Standards. Report cards to parents provide summative information but SATs also provide comparative areas of strength information which Heads of Cluster, School Leaders and teachers can use to formatively guide school improvement policies and improvement policies and improvements in students' learning. More importantly, teachers should use such information to design and strategise their teaching.

### **Is SAT considered as a high stake or low stake type of assessment?**

High stake because it is a national measure of students' competency in literacy and numeracy. Findings from the SAT are reported as our national indicators.

### **Is SAT going to be a form of topical test or some form of a standardised test (not based on content)?**

SAT is not a topical test. It is a standardised psychometric measurement similar to international measures such as PISA, TIMSS, PIRLS and the Australian NAPLAN. The assessment measures both content knowledge and skills such as listening skills, reasoning, problem solving etc.

**What is the relation between the SAT to the existing SPE, SBA and SPA?**

SAT is a national student measurement developed by the Centralised Assessment Unit (CAU), Ministry of Education Brunei and it sits above all school-based assessments. In terms of design, the SAT is not similar to any existing assessments and is not part of the SPA. Data produced by the SAT, measures students' competency and learning which allow for individual student tracking at every key level in the education system.

**Can SAT report can be used as an academic report?**

Yes, the SAT report must be used as part of an academic report to inform teachers, parents and schools on the performance of students in Literacy, Numeracy and Science as it substantiates other academic reports and suggests individual students' intervention.

**Why are there more than one booklet in SAT?**

The purpose of having more than one booklet is to increase the quality of assessment by these fundamentals:

- A distribution of questions across all the booklets allow for the whole student cohort to answer without overtaxing them, otherwise students would spend hours to complete the assessment.
- Reducing the tendency to 'predict' and memories questions hence keeping the assessment fair for all and getting more accurate measurements. This is especially crucial because all the test forms (question papers) once administered are kept by schools.

**How do teachers do correction since students answer different booklets?**

Teachers may use all the booklets or choose one, the skills assessed in all the booklets are similar.

**As SAT measures competencies, how are they going to be reported back to schools?**

The Students Transcripts are built into the data entry template which contains:

- The number and percentage of correct items.
- Item analysis of every question.

**How do schools target weak students when there are no grades?**

The schools' transcripts is an analysis of individual school performance and from there the low performing students can be identified.

**Is SAT aligned towards GCE 'O' Level / IGCSE and PISA?**

Yes. SAT assessments are fully aligned with the National Literacy and Numeracy standards which are also aligned to the standards which underpin the GCE 'O' Level / IGCSE and PISA assessments.

**How does SAT benefit students and teachers?**

SAT is meant for tracking students' progress and this will inform teachers to diagnose students learning difficulties and eventually design accurate intervention strategies.

**Where can we get resources on BDLNNS?**

Resources on BDLNNS are accessible from *<https://goo.gl/ZcCiWD>*