



Tell us about our daughter's learning....

In a growth mindset students understand that their talents and abilities can be developed through effort, good teaching and persistence. They don't necessarily think everyone's the same or anyone can be Einstein, but they believe everyone can get smarter if they work at it.

Carol Dweck

Gathering information

Teachers use a variety of methods to gather information about student learning and growth. Some information serves as formative feedback that the teacher will use to help shape tomorrow's activities to fit student needs and interests while some information serves to benchmark student growth.

- written response
- exit slip
- test
- observation
- performance task
- interview
- discussion
- presentation

Evaluating performance

Teachers use clear criteria to measure student progress. Sometimes a rubric will be used to make evaluative criteria explicit. Students and teachers often work together to describe and design the criteria that matter.

Reporting results

Teachers provide feedback in a variety of ways: informally through daily, personal interaction with students, and formally through documentation in a student's electronic portfolio.

Our CGS technology team is always available through email to provide support to families. **Members of the team will also be available on Tuesdays after school in the tech deck at Lakeview for individual support.** Please connect with us!

The Calgary Girls' School uses four *indicators* to communicate about the development of girls' understanding:

Consolidating

Consolidating understanding refers to a solid, confident facility with a given concept or skill. A consolidating learner produces exemplary work to reflect her growth. She demonstrates consistent, independent success.

Formulating

Formulating understanding represents meaningful steps forward as a learner builds upon her basic grasp of a concept or skill. A formulating learner is achieving a greater degree of independent achievement than when her understanding was first emerging.

Emerging

Emerging understanding is a good beginning. It indicates a learner who is working to establish her basic grasp of the concept or skill being addressed. An emerging learner may be encountering an idea or skill that is relatively new to her.

Expanding

Expanding understanding indicates a learner who has consolidated her understanding, and in addition to this, also demonstrates a capacity to reach beyond by generating unique insights and original connections. An expanding learner demonstrates novel thinking and individual initiative in exploring and using complex, interrelated ideas.

Throughout our twelve-year history, the teachers at the Calgary Girls' School have been continually engaged with the task of practicing assessment and communicating about student growth in ways that best support student learning in light of current educational scholarship. Part of our mandate as a Public Charter School is to shape our assessment practice in response to current research in the areas of effective pedagogy, educational psychology, cognitive neuroscience, and girls' academic and emotional growth.

Engaging in Assessment with your daughter

Parents can partner in their daughter's learning by regularly engaging them in conversation about what they're studying, and by visiting their electronic portfolio to observe work samples and written feedback.

Periodic conferences allow students to engage their parents in the world of the classroom, to demonstrate activities and interpret their learning.

September 17 and 18

Introductory Conferences-students, parents and teachers build relationships and communicate regarding learning for the upcoming year.

November 19 and 20

Student-led conferences-students engage parents and teachers in conversations about their learning.

January 27

Student Assessment Summary (SAS) - posted in student portfolio for students and parents to review

March 10 and 11

Student-led conferences- students engage parents and teachers in conversations about their learning.

June 27

Student Assessment Summary (SAS) - posted in student portfolio for students and parents to review

Teachers are available by email and telephone, in face-to-face meetings during conferences, and at other times as needed, to complete the picture and give an accurate reflection of your daughter's progress.