

## Maryvale Assessments

Maryvale utilizes a variety of assessments to reliably determine students' academic progress and mastery of standards. These assessments include teacher made assessments and standardized assessments.

Teachers on a grade level collaborate to create Common Formative Assessments (CFAs) which are given three times a quarter in reading and math to assess students' learning throughout the quarter, and End of Quarter Tests (EQTs) administered at the end of each quarter to determine mastery on the quarter's standards. Students who do not master the standards on the CFAs are retaught and retested to ensure mastery. In addition to the CFAs and EQTs, teachers created small assessments to evaluate student performance. Teachers also utilize informal assessments such as Check for Understanding (CFU), exit slips, written responses, and teacher observation to evaluate student understanding. All teacher made assessments are created using the Mobile County Public School System (MCPSS) Pacing Guides, Instructional Planning Guides, and Unpacked Standards which are based on the Alabama College and Career Ready Standards (ALCCRS).

Standardized assessments are administered periodically to determine students' progress towards meeting end of year goals. These assessments include Dynamic Indicator of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS), STAR (Reading Renaissance), and ACT Aspire. The DIBELS is administered individually to all kindergarten through second grade students three times a year to determine students' progress towards grade level reading skills. The test is administered by staff other than the classroom teacher to ensure a quality testing environment. The STAR assessment is administered three times a year in reading and math to all students in kindergarten through fifth grade, and it is administered monthly to students who are receiving additional academic support. Students are determined to be exceeding standards, ready (meeting standards), in need of support and on watch. Results are used to provide extra support or provide enrichment as needed. The ACT Aspire is administered in the spring of the school year. Results are disaggregated the following fall when test scores are released.

Data from all assessments are correlated and studied for outliers, trends, and are used to determine instructional needs. Faculty and staff are trained on creating the teacher made assessments, administering assessments, and the interpretation and use of data.