A white icon with a stack of books

Description automatically generatedA red sign with white text and a book and pencil

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Description automatically generated Assessment Policy for Durris School

At Durris School, we recognize the importance of assessment in promoting effective teaching and learning. This policy aims to provide a framework for carrying out assessments in a fair, consistent, and meaningful manner. Our assessment practices are focused on supporting student progress, informing instructional decisions, and providing valuable feedback to students, parents, and teachers. The purpose of assessment at Durris School is to:

1. Evaluate and monitor student progress and achievement.  
2. Inform and guide teaching and learning strategies.  
3. Identify areas of strength and areas for improvement for individual students and the overall curriculum.  
4. Provide students, parents, and teachers with feedback on progress and next steps.  
5. Inform school improvement initiatives and policies.  
  
This policy applies to all members of the Durris School community, including students, teachers, parents, and school leaders. Each stakeholder has a role to play in ensuring the effective implementation of assessment practices.  
  
At Durris School, we use a variety of assessment methods to provide a well-rounded picture of student learning. These assessment methods include, but are not limited to:  
  
Formative Assessments:

a. Regular in-class observations and teacher-student interactions to gauge understanding and progress.  
b. Verbal questioning and discussion to assess student understanding in real-time.  
c. Peer and self-assessment activities to encourage reflection and growth.  
d. Informal quizzes and exit tickets to check for understanding during or at the end of a lesson.  
  
Summative Assessments:  
a. End-of-unit tests or assessments to evaluate overall achievement.  
b. Projects, presentations, or practical assignments that allow students to demonstrate their understanding and skills.  
c. Standardized assessments, where appropriate, to measure student progress against national benchmarks.  
  
Diagnostic Assessments and Reflections:  
a. Pre-assessments to identify students' prior knowledge and misconceptions.  
b. Diagnostic tests or assessments to pinpoint specific areas of strength and areas requiring intervention.

c. Student reflective statements and self-assessments.

d. individual and class reflections that encourage students to track their progress, set goals, and reflect on their learning journey.  
  
Assessment practices at Durris School will align with the principles of validity, reliability, fairness, and inclusivity. Teachers will provide clear assessment criteria and guidelines to ensure transparency and consistency across assessments. They will also use assessment data to inform instruction, differentiate learning experiences, and provide timely feedback to students and parents.  
Regular reviews of this policy will be conducted to ensure that assessment practices evolve and remain effective in meeting the needs of our students at Durris School.