



Ministry of Education

# Frequently Asked Questions

Student Assessment Tracker

*Centralised Assessment Unit*

## FAQ Summary

---

1. What is SAT?
2. Is SAT a summative or formative type of assessment?
3. Is SAT considered as a high stake or low stake type of assessment?
4. Is SAT going to be a form of topical test or some form of a standardised test (not based on content)?
5. Does SAT replace Mock Exam and End of Year Exam?
6. What is the relation of SAT in Year 8 to the already existing SPE, SBA and SPA?
7. Can SAT be used as a Mock Exam for Year 8 (before SPE) or Mock before End of Year Exam for Year 7? Or even as End of Year Exam for Year 7 (in relation to English, Mathematics and Science)?
8. Why are there more than one booklet in SAT?
9. How do teachers do correction since students answer different booklets?
10. As SAT measures competencies, how are they going to be reported back to schools?
11. How do schools target weak students when there are no grades?
12. Is SAT aligned towards 'O' Level and PISA?
13. Can SAT report be used as an academic report?
14. How about reporting to parents during Parent-Teacher Meet?
15. Where can we get resources on BDLNNS?

## 1. What is SAT?

Student Assessment Tracker or SAT is a standardised measure of Literacy, Numeracy and Science that provides **reliable data** that can be used **formatively** to improve students' **competency** in these areas. SAT measures the competency levels of Literacy and Numeracy as described in the Brunei Darussalam Literacy and Numeracy National Standards (BDLNNS).

## 2. Is SAT a summative or formative type of assessment?

SAT are both formative and summative assessments. They provide at the end of each year between Year 1 and 8, a measure of how student learning compares with the expected 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 improvements in student learning. More importantly, teachers should use such information to design and strategise their teaching.

## 3. 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.

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

No, the 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**.

**5. Does SAT replace Mock Exam and End of Year Exam?**

No. The SAT is a national level measure while mock exams, mid-year exams, end-of-year exams, etc are all school-based assessments. School-based examinations are administered and managed by individual school management teams.

**6. What is the relation of SAT in Year 8 to the already existing SPE, SBA and SPA? Where is SAT in 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.

**7. Can SAT be used as a Mock Exam for Year 8 (before SPE) or Mock before End of Year Exam for Year 7? Or even as End of Year Exam for Year 7 (in relation to English, Mathematics and Science)?**

No. (See question number 6.) However, results of the SAT will help teachers guide individual students prepare for school-based and public examinations.

## **8. 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 memorise 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.

## **9. 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.

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

The Student Transcript is built into the data entry template which contains:

1. The number of correct items
2. Item analysis

A School Transcript will be provided which contains the number or correct items and item analysis for the school.

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

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

**12. Is SAT aligned towards 'O' Level and PISA?**

Yes it is aligned to 'O' Level and PISA because SAT is designed to measure and develop students in literacy and numeracy competencies.

SAT assessments are fully aligned with the National Literacy and Numeracy standards which are also aligned to the standards which underpin the PISA assessments. Thus the SATs are fully aligned.

**13. Can SAT report be used as an academic report?**

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

**14. How about reporting to parents during Parent-Teacher Meet?**

A data interpretation session will be conducted by CAU to assist schools in understanding SAT transcripts.

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

This is available at url <https://goo.gl/ZcCiWD>