

Brilliant Microschool Assessment Policy

Brilliant Microschools' curriculum is designed through a backward-planning model aligned to clearly defined skills and badges. Each unit concludes with one authentic performance task, which is assessed by teachers within our Learning Management System using a common, pre-established rubric. Our assessment system is mastery-based, using four proficiency levels alongside a translated letter grade to ensure clear and consistent communication of student learning.

Reassessment

At BMS, reassessment is viewed as an authentic and essential part of the learning process. Students are given ongoing opportunities to grow toward mastery over time. When a student has not yet demonstrated proficiency, the expectation is not a permanent low grade, but a structured opportunity to revise, improve, and resubmit work until the standard is met.

Purpose of Assessment

Assessment at Brilliant Microschools is designed to support student ownership of learning. It empowers students to demonstrate what they know and can do, reflect on their progress, and determine their next steps in learning and skill development.

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Letter Grade	Composite Score Range	Mastery Descriptor	Description
A	3.5–4.0	Advanced Mastery	Advanced Understanding: Thoroughly understands concepts and applies learning independently and accurately in complex situations.
B	3.0–3.4	Meets Grade-Level Mastery	Solid Proficiency (Graduation Standard): Reliably meets essential grade-level expectations with independent grasp of core concepts.
C	2.0–2.9	Approaching Mastery	Developing Proficiency: Demonstrates foundational knowledge but has noticeable gaps, requiring occasional scaffolding or prompting.
D	1.0–1.9	Limited Mastery	Significant Difficulty: Struggles heavily to demonstrate understanding; relies on frequent direct intervention.
F (IE)	0–0.9	Insufficient Evidence	Not Yet Demonstrating: Evidence of mastery is missing, incomplete, or fails to demonstrate required outcomes.

As a mastery-based school, our mission is to ensure your student doesn't just "get by," but truly understands and retains the skills they need to succeed in college, careers, and beyond. Because of this high standard, our grading scale looks a bit different than the traditional systems you might be used to.

In many traditional schools, a "C" grade (70–79%) is considered a passing mark that grants credit. However, a "C" typically indicates that a student has only partially mastered the material, leaving behind a 20% to 30% gap in their foundational knowledge.

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To ensure our graduates are fully prepared for their next steps, Brilliant Microschools requires a cumulative 3.0 GPA (a solid "B" average) to graduate. Consequently, course credit is only awarded at 80% (a B-) and above. Here is why we hold this standard:

- **True Independence:** *An 80% or higher demonstrates that a student can consistently perform grade-level work independently.*
- **No Learning Gaps:** *Setting the bar at 80% ensures students build a strong foundation before moving on to more complex, higher-level courses.*
- **Keeping Doors Open:** *A 3.0 GPA is a critical threshold for four-year university admissions, competitive trade programs, and merit-based scholarships. We set our graduation requirement here so our students transition into adulthood with every door open to them.*

When looking at your student's progress, anything below an 80% means they are in a "Developing" phase. It is not a permanent failure; it is a signal that they need a bit more time, support, or practice to achieve true mastery.