



WHAT ARE BENCHMARK TESTS?

Information for Parents

What are Benchmarks and Mastery Connect?

The Abbeville County School District has partnered with MasteryConnect to administer benchmark assessments to all students in the 3rd-12th grade. MasteryConnect is an online teacher tool and student assessment platform.

What is the purpose of Benchmark Tests?

These tests allow teachers to efficiently and effectively determine what core standards your child has already mastered. Students will be able to take the assessment, and teachers will receive the results instantly. The results are displayed by standard. So while students will still get an overall percentage on the assessment, the focus is on the mastery level of the specific standards. In most cases this is displayed by 3 colors, red (remediation), yellow (near mastery), and green (mastery).

How Do Benchmarks Assist with Student Learning?

These mastery levels help teachers, students, parents, and leaders know exactly where the child is on the learning continuum and allows them to respond to that data immediately. The results from the benchmark assessments are for instructional purposes only and will provide important information to your child's teacher about strengths and weaknesses to guide the planning of upcoming lessons.

When Are Benchmarks Given?

Students will take the benchmark assessments in the core subjects of English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies and Science. For students in the 3rd-8th grade and who are enrolled in yearlong courses, students will be given the benchmark assessment three times this year. For students in semester courses, students will be given the benchmark two times during the semester.

Note: This assessment is only one of multiple measures used to make instructional decisions.

Final Comments:

We are excited about the opportunities of using this data to inform our instructional approaches and assist the students in finding academic success. We

sincerely appreciate your assistance in helping your child understand the importance of this assessment!