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What happens with the results?

Your child's teachers will correct the tests based on predefined instructions and enter the results anonymously in a data portal for evaluation. Teachers then will receive more detailed feedback on the range of learning levels of their students. This allows a strong and weak point analysis.

No personal data is passed and the entire process is in accordance with the Hessian data protection law.

How will I be informed about the results of my child?

Your child's teacher will inform you about the outcome after receiving the result report. This information may offer a good basis for parent-teacher talk about the learning progress of your child.

Where to find more information?

Detailed information is available on the internet at the following addresses:

www.lernstand.hessen.de
www.iqb.hu-berlin.de/vera

For queries please contact your child's school or Hessische Lehrkräfteakademie.

E-mail: lernstand.la@kultus.hessen.de
 Phone: 0611 8803-9804



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Hessische Lehrkräfteakademie

HESSEN



Central student assessment in Hesse

Information brochure for parents of 3rd grade students in primary schools and of 8th grade students in secondary schools

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Zentrale Lernstandserhebungen



Dear parents,
dear legal guardians,

below, you will find information and answers to important questions concerning the central student assessment in Hesse (Zentrale Lernstandserhebungen in Hessen).

■ What is the central student assessment?

The central student assessment consists of standardized tests in different school subjects, which are carried out all over Germany. The standardized tests take place in primary schools (grade 3) as well as in secondary schools (grade 8).

The key aspects of these tests are based on nationwide educational standards for the subjects English, German, French and mathematics. Educational standards determine which skills and competencies students should achieve by the end of their individual course of education. Consequently, the central student assessment allows a feedback on the learning progress with respect to the nationwide educational standards.

■ What is the aim of the central student assessment?

The central student assessment allows receiving relevant information in order to implement support if necessary. It also gives teachers a feedback on strengths and weaknesses of their class in the different areas of the respective subjects. Furthermore, it helps teachers to determine existing development needs.

Each teacher is enabled to compare his or her class results with a fair average, the so-called "corrected Hessian average", which takes into consideration the special learning requirements and group relationships of the corresponding class.

Such a classification of the results enables teachers to rate the success of their educational work appropriately. Therefore, there is no ranking of schools or of the federal states, and schools are not obliged to disclose their results.

■ Who develops the tasks?

The tasks are developed by teachers of all federal states, monitored by scientists and are piloted in advance.

The tasks are related to the key areas of the respective school subject.

■ Who participates in the central student assessment?

- Participation is mandatory for all pupils of grade 3 in public primary schools in the subjects German and mathematics.
- In grade 8, participation is mandatory for all students in at least one subject; participation is voluntary in the other subjects, but recommended.
- Participation is optional for private schools and special schools.
- For pupils with special educational needs or with inadequate German language skills a differentiated individualized procedure is recommended. For more information, see the flyer for inclusive education at: www.lernstand.hessen.de (only in German).

■ When does the central student assessment take place?

The central student assessment takes place annually in February/March for grade 8 and in April/May for grade 3, respectively. Testing periods are set nationwide at the same time and are available at: www.lernstand.hessen.de.

In grade 3 each test takes about 30 minutes, in grade 8 it takes about two lessons for each subject.

■ Is the central student assessment graded?

No, the central student assessment may not be graded. It is no class test. The Central student assessment is a diagnostic tool at class level, whereby its results may be used for further work in class.

The test contains a range of tasks with different levels of difficulty, reaching from very easy to very difficult. This ensures that sufficient tasks are included for low achieving as well as for high-potential students.

This assures valid assessment of the range of learning levels within one single class.

It is expected that all students of one class are able to solve an average of about half of the tasks correctly.

■ How can I help my child prepare for the test?

The test allows validating students' skills and competencies acquired over the past school years, it also examines how students can apply their acquired knowledge. A special preparation – for example, by short-term practice of tasks – is therefore neither useful nor necessary.

However, please encourage your child to approach the tests in a positive way. Tell your child that there will be some difficult tasks and that no one expects him or her to solve all tasks completely.

There is no grading. The test is designed to assess skills and competencies. This can be best achieved in a relaxed working atmosphere without any pressure. The teachers will inform the students about the procedure and the task formats in good time before the test.