

Braemar House School Results for the CAT-4 tests undertaken October 2009.



The CAT-4 results come essentially in two reports: “criterion-referenced” (specific curriculum expectations) and “norm-referenced” (comparison against a representative Canadian sample). This test is useful in its analysis of a child’s strengths and needs, and provides a snapshot of a child’s academic ability at a given time. It has proven to be an excellent tool for individualized program planning early in the school year.

The expectations that are suggested in the **criterion-referenced** portion present a very good match to the Ontario Provincial Curriculum and were provided by educators themselves. Students are evaluated as Low, Competent or Proficient, and the “end-of-grade expectations” are what would be expected at our test time - the end of the first month of the school year (ie Grade 1.1, 2.1, 3.1 etc).

The test for Grades 1 and 2 is not similar enough to allow us to report it with the rest of the school; however 49% of our students in these grades are performing in reading at the Competent level and 45% at the Proficient level (above expectations and higher even that last year)! In Mathematics 35% of these same students are performing at the competent level and an impressive 62% at the Proficient level!

For students in Grades 3 to 8 the results are more detailed and obviously excellent:

Grade 3 to 8 Results	Low	Competent	Proficient
Reading	9%	73%	18%
Vocabulary	4%	71%	25%
Writing Conventions	7%	55%	38%
Spelling	4%	57%	39%
Mathematics	9%	64%	28%
Computation	19%	57%	23%

We continue to work on computation and have identified this area for ongoing effort. Put in perspective, 13 students (19% of the 70 Grades 3 to 8 students tested) need more practice in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

The **norm-referenced** results (a comparison to 55,000 other students across Canada) are received as both National and Regional (Ontario) scores. For our analysis we used the Regional scores for our Grade 3 to 8 students only.

The scores are presented as Stanines or Percentiles. Stanines of 1-3 are below average standing, 4-6 are an average standing and 7-9 are an above average standing. At Braemar, 49% of our students rank overall in Stanines 7, 8 or 9 (above average), with 47% in Stanines 4, 5 and 6.

In overall Average Regional Percentile scores, Braemar students in Grades 3 to 8 score better than 81.8% of their norm group. More specifically, in Reading scores, Braemar scores better than 73% of their norm group, in Writing better than 78.3% of their norm group, and in Mathematics 82.2% of their norm group.

In terms of the Grade Equivalency scores, Braemar students score on average 1.67 grades ahead of their peer group. This means that our students do as well on these tests as a student 1 grade and 6 months ahead of them would do.

While Braemar’s results are very positive, we recognize the importance of using the information we’ve received to identify areas for growth and improvement, so that we may continue to provide the best programming for our students.