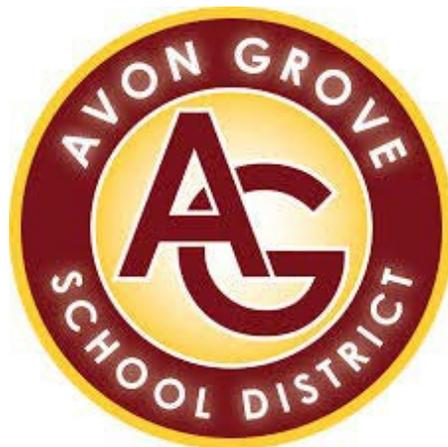


Avon Grove School District Exact Path Information 2021-2022



Exact Path Overview

During the month of September, students will complete the Exact Path Diagnostic Screener in reading and math for the first out of three times this year. The results of this adaptive assessment will be used to monitor students' growth throughout the year as well as identify students who in need of additional services as part of our Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) Framework. Students' performance on this assessment is reported out as a scaled score and a National Percentile Ranking (NPR). It is important to note that the NPR is compared to where students of the same grade level performed in the spring. This provides a way for us to know where students should grow to by the conclusion of the school year. It is extremely important for your students to complete the assessment without any help while selecting answers. Students may receive help with navigating the assessment but please do not guide them in any way with answer selection.

Another exciting feature of Exact Path is individualized learning paths that are created for each student as a result of the Diagnostic Screener. Within a learning path, students are assigned skills to master by engaging in a series of activities including direct instruction, practice, and mastery quizzes. After completing each set of skills displayed in the learning path, a short Progress Check will be unlocked. This will assess a student's understanding of the skills he or she just learned and determine if additional review is needed or if the student is ready to move ahead. If the student does not master a skill, he or she will receive a prerequisite skill known as a Building Block to help shore up foundational concepts. Additionally, your student's teacher will be notified and may intervene via offline instruction or choose to create a digital assignment the student can complete within Exact Path. Students are encouraged to work in their learning paths at home independently. You are welcome to sit with them, but their interaction with the program should reflect their independent ability.

Additional information can be found on the following pages. There is also a webpage on our District site that can provide helpful information about Exact Path should you wish to learn more. This page can be found at: www.tinyurl.com/agsdexactpath.

If you have any questions, please reach out to your student's teacher.



This manual provides general information about the Exact Path diagnostics and specific guidelines for administering math, reading, and language arts diagnostic assessments. Parents or guardians who are fulfilling the role of test administrator should read and review the contents of this manual prior to testing to ensure the highest levels of test fidelity.

How does the Exact Path adaptive diagnostic work?

Exact Path diagnostic assessments are computer-adaptive tests that measure skill readiness and academic growth in mathematics, reading, and language arts skills. As a student takes an assessment, the testing algorithm works in real time to deliver specific questions that home in on the student's proximal zone of development.

If the student answers incorrectly, the assessment lowers the difficulty level of the next item. If the student answers correctly, the assessment raises the difficulty level of the next item. As the student answers more questions, the test learns more about what the student does or does not know. Every answered question provides greater confidence and precision in the student's scale score. Once the scale score is precise enough, the test ends, and a learning path is automatically created. This [short video](#) provides further details on the goals and process of a computer-adaptive test.

How can I help support test security and validity of test scores?

Sound testing procedures are the hallmark of test security. When test administrators consistently follow the procedures presented in this manual before, during, and after testing, they help ensure test results that are true representations of student achievement. Additionally, test security safeguards are built into Exact Path's computer-adaptive test design.

[Prepare for an optimal test experience.](#) We recommend that test administrators follow these recommendations for testing:

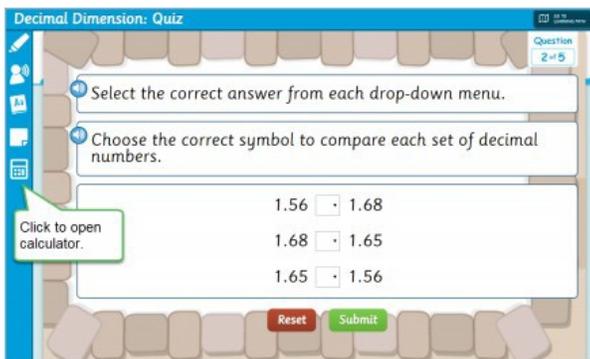
- Read this test administration manual thoroughly and carefully.
- Explain to students that they are not expected to know everything on the test. By nature, an adaptive test is assessing what students know *and* do not know. Students are only expected to get about 50 percent of questions correct.
- Allow sufficient time for testing so that students do not feel rushed. Allocate enough time so that students can complete the testing in one or two sessions as close together as possible.
- Provide a quiet environment that is free of distractions with familiar technology.
- Share with students the reasons why the test is important so that testing validity stays intact. When students recognize that their test is designing a learning path built specifically to their learning needs, they are more invested in the process.
- Refrain from providing help on content. You could negatively impact their testing experience and subsequent learning path by providing support.

Preparing for the Day of Testing

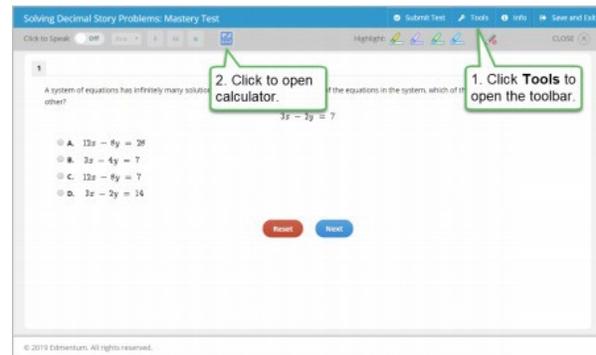
Materials Needed

- Provide note paper and sharpened pencils for students to take notes as needed.
- If students are taking the test with “read aloud” enabled (a default setting for K–2 students), consider providing headphones.
- Do NOT permit students to use calculators or other devices during the test (an on-screen calculator will be provided for select skills in grades 3 and up). Students can access it from the toolbar. See below:

Toolbar for students in grades 3–5:



Toolbar for students in grades 6–12:



You can find a helpful overview video of each calculator option: [Basic Calculator](#), [Scientific Calculator](#), and [Graphing Calculator](#). Access Desmos Calculator Keyboard Shortcuts as needed here: <https://support.desmos.com/hc/en-us/articles/202528799-Keyboards-Shortcuts>

Technology Recommendations

The assessment can be taken on any Internet-enabled device of your choosing. Our recommendation is to utilize a device that the student is already familiar with and that offers a suitable screen size and user experience for testing.

Enable “full-screen” mode on your browser to ensure that no scrolling is required. Browsers with customizations (bookmark tabs, extensions, etc.) and low-resolution screen settings result in a smaller available space, which could result in learners needing to scroll to see the **SUBMIT** button during testing.

Readying Students

Encourage students to get comfortable, and remove any distractions prior to testing. Instruct learners to:

- Find a quiet space to test
- Plug in the device for optimal charging and brightness
- Wear comfortable clothes (e.g., a jacket if in a chilly air-conditioned location)
- Use the restroom before testing begins
- Get a drink of water

