

Five progress descriptors

For use in 2026 onwards

Progress Descriptor	Indicators for Teachers	Descriptions for Parents and Whānau
1 Emerging Students require support to meet curriculum expectations for their year level and/or goals as described in their personalised learning plan.	Students: - Understand some concepts and strategies for learning with significant guidance and assistance. - Can make some connections and apply knowledge with significant guidance and assistance. - Make progress in line with goals described in their personalised learning plan, with significant support	Your child: - Is beginning to understand some learning ideas for their year level with a lot of support. - Can sometimes use knowledge they've learned, but usually needs help to do so. - Is making some progress in ways that are meaningful and aligned to their strengths and needs, with significant support.
2 Developing Students are making some progress towards curriculum expectations for their year level.	Students: - Understand concepts and strategies for learning with some guidance. - Can learn facts and apply knowledge, in familiar contexts with some support. - Are making progress with new knowledge towards meeting year level expectations or are progressing with support to accelerate learning towards expectations for their year level.	Your child: - Is starting to understand key ideas, often with some support. - Can remember facts and use what they've learned in familiar situations, with a bit of help. - With the right support, your child is making progress towards the expectation for their year level.
3 Consolidating Students are meeting many curriculum expectations for their year level and are steadily strengthening their understanding across learning areas.	Students: - Apply familiar strategies to reinforce their learning with increasing independence. - Often recall and use knowledge with growing confidence. - Are beginning to transfer knowledge to new contexts. - Can reflect on and explain their ideas clearly to express what they could do better.	Your child: - Is learning to use helpful techniques on their own to support their learning. - Is getting better at remembering and using what they have learned. - Is starting to use what they know in new and different situations. - Can share their ideas and is beginning to talk about what they would do better.
4 Proficient Students are meeting curriculum expectations for their year level.	Students: - Can consistently apply learning strategies confidently, accurately and independently. - Can independently use their knowledge in a variety of situations. - Can often apply knowledge to new contexts. - Can reflect on and explain their ideas clearly, explain their reasoning and apply this to improve their learning. - Often shares their ideas to grow and build knowledge.	Your child: - Can use helpful learning techniques on their own and knows how to use them well. - Can use what they've learned in different situations without help. - Can often use what they know in new situations. - Can share their thoughts clearly and explain their reasoning. - Often shares their ideas to build knowledge.
5 Exceeding Students are exceeding curriculum expectations for their year level.	Students: - Use higher level thinking strategies to reflect on their learning. - Consistently connect ideas and concepts across different contexts. - Deepen their ideas, thinking and understanding. - Can use their learning in purposeful and innovative ways to make sense of complex ideas. - Consistently reflects on ideas to test, challenge and extend their knowledge.	Your child: - Shows advanced thinking by understanding tricky ideas, solving problems, making connections, and explaining their thinking clearly. - Can link what they've learned in one area or situation to another. - Can build on their ideas and show deeper understanding. - Can use what they've learned in thoughtful and creative ways to understand more challenging ideas. - Tests and challenges ideas to create deeper knowledge.