

## **Formative Assessment**

*Balgownie Public School is a continually improving learning community that integrates formative assessment and values the enhanced learning that occurs as result. Formative assessment as defined by Black and Wiliam (2009) is, "the extent that evidence about student achievement is elicited, interpreted, and used by teachers, learners, or their peers, to make decisions about the next steps in instruction that are likely to be better, or better founded, than the decisions they would have taken in the absence of the evidence that was elicited."*

*Formative assessment is a strategy that makes learning visible for both teachers and students. The focus of this learning tool, is to enhance student's knowledge of learning goals and how they can continually improve their educational skills. In 2018, Balgownie Public School increased its focus on formative assessment practices that are implemented in minute by minute classroom practices, as it is recorded by Leahy and Wiliam (2009) that , "there is a 70% to 80% increase in the speed of learning when formative assessment practices are integrated into the minute by minute and day by day classroom activities of teachers."*

*The feedback of formative assessment reveals where students are in their learning. This strategy reflects the areas students are excelling in, along with the areas students require further support to achieve their learning goal. Through feedback teachers are able to provide a constructive foundation that ensures students identify where they are in achieving their learning goal and what steps are required to improve.*

*Through implementing the strategies of formative assessment, students at Balgownie Public School are learning to clarify, share and understand learning goals and the success criteria used to improve their skills. Additionally, formative assessment produces independent, self-reflective learners who continue to strive for success in all areas of curriculum through the gift of continuous feedback.*

*The links to Stage 1, Stage 2 and Stage 3, showcase a sample of formative assessment strategies currently used at Balgownie Public School.*