

FAQs: StudentsAchieve – Edition 2: 2012-13

1. What are the implications of Most Recent at the K – 8 Level?

- a. If you are not assessing an outcome in its entirety (ex. Social Studies), Most Recent might not be the most appropriate indicator of understanding. As always, examine each piece of evidence and apply Professional Judgement (considering Most Consistent with Most Recent).
- b. If you are assessing several items at one time in relation to a single outcome, be aware of which assignment will be used for the Most Recent (see below). As always, also consider whether or not an assessment event is a true representation of knowledge. If the data is not appropriate, do not enter it as summative, or feel free to apply Professional Judgement.

2. How does SA determine the date for Most Recent?

StudentsAchieve uses the following criteria to calculate the Most Recent of an Outcome. Initially the program searches for the due date of the Assignment. If no due date is populated, the program then defers to the date the assignment was created. StudentsAchieve will then pull the Most Recent assessment as defined by this criterion. If the student completes a re-demonstration of an assessment it is best to create a new assignment with a due date that is after the original due date. Simply de-select any students this new assessment does not apply to. Changing the student's mark in the original assignment does not make it the most recent. The program looks at the due date of the assignment, not the time stamp of each individual student entry. This is designed to give the teacher full control of which assignment is indeed the most recent.

Further to this, we are asking all teachers to complete the Due Date field on the assignment creation template. The purpose of this is to have better control of the Most Recent calculation and more importantly to communicate to parents in the Parent Portal the upcoming, current and completed assignments.

3. When should I complete the Due Date portion of the assignment creator?

Always fill in the due date when creating the assignment.

4. What does the Parent Portal look like?

Refer to document titled, "What Will Parents See" on Curriculum Corner > Assessments > StudentsAchieve > Help Files.

5. Can students select how to demonstrate their understanding on an outcome? If so, how do I setup the assignments in SA?

If students have choices on HOW to demonstrate understanding on an outcome, it is not necessary to create an assignment for each type of demonstration. Reference the outcome when naming the assignment. You may wish to include a comment describing the type of demonstration inside the Comment Dialogue Box. These comments are shown in the Parent Portal and on the newest reports where appropriate.

6. What happens if not all of the students complete a particular assignment?

If not all students are completing each demonstration of learning (re-demonstrations for example), be sure to disable the students who are not being assessed on the event. It is recommended to fill in the Completion Code, EXC, to communicate the student is EXCUSED from this assignment.

7. What happens if a student can demonstrate the outcome during the pre-assessment?

If a student demonstrated an outcome on a pre-assessment and you would like this to become a summative assessment for only a select few students, apply Professional Judgement for the particular students. It is recommended to develop a comment in the Comment Dialogue Box explaining the student has demonstrated the outcome during the pre-assessment. This applies to any practice work where certain students have been challenged and observed completing outcomes earlier than intended. When further assessing occurs that does not apply, please refer to the question above.

8. What happens when students move to Enriched work while others do not?

If some students move to enrichment work and complete assessment events different from those of their peers, apply Professional Judgement at the outcome level (FM) and continue to change it as the student moves onto EU levels. Add comments in the Comment Dialogue Box to explain the PJ. A second option is to create a separate assignment and disable all students except the ones taking part in the enrichment opportunity.

9. Do I need to apply Professional Judgement every term?

Yes. Professional Judgement inside of StudentsAchieve disappears from term to term. To keep track of when you applied PJ, print off one of the summary reports. PJ is identified with the use of italics.