

Angel Kindergarten Assessment Policy

Our Mission

*We nurture students to take on challenges,
care for and collaborate with others*

Our Vision

*We strive to create a community which
promotes lifelong learning and
knowledgeable international minded people.
Our children will grow into adults who are
kindhearted and takes on challenges.*

Rationale

As we strive to achieve our mission and vision, assessment is necessary to evaluate and track student growth. It is through assessment that we as a community of stakeholders are able to adapt our way of thinking to meet students needs. It is essential for successful communication between teachers, parents, administration and students. The assessment policy was developed by the stakeholders at Angel Kindergarten. We measure the progress of students throughout the whole year.

Local requirements

Angel-Kindergarten is an Article one school which operates under the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). Therefore we are required to keep records (hoiku youroku) of all students which will be communicated to the schools that the students will move to after they graduate kindergarten. These records include the students' progress and development.

Prior knowledge

At the beginning of a unit, it is crucial to activate prior knowledge. From this information, the teacher can understand how to develop the course of the unit. This information is also used to identify how to best help student development.

How we assess

During a unit we fairly and objectively assess to measure student growth. These assessments are done so we can see the understanding of the students while the unit is progressing. It is not meant to be a final product, but to show the teachers how to adjust to fit their needs. As the unit progresses students are able to reflect on the learning they have accomplished so far through the feedback of the assessment. We continuously assess throughout the whole unit and it will be used as evidence of understanding. It is important to evaluate the students' application of their learning outside of the classroom as well.

Updated 2023-06-07

Through observations of play and activities, we can assess students as they inquire naturally. We use different tools such as observations, photos, movies, worksheets, reflection and peer assessment. As stated in our language policy, language comes in many forms. As we are mindful of our students' wellbeing, we strive to perform assessment through different ways to give the students the opportunity to show their understanding. This is important in order to create an inclusive environment, as also stated in our inclusion policy.

Reporting

In order to address the needs of different learners, a portfolio system is used. For the portfolio many different forms of assessment may be included such as: drawings, charts, photos, videos, observations and others. The portfolio is also used for reflection as each unit progresses. We use the portfolio to inform the stakeholders about the learning so they can reflect as well. Using the portfolio, we are able to see the growth of the whole child as they strive to become internationally minded.

Once a unit is finished, we ask students to bring the portfolio home so they can reflect together with their parents or guardians. We ask parents to take part in the reflection so the assessment doesn't become a one-way road so that the whole community can think of the next steps.

In order for the community to be able to comprehend the students' daily lives at the kindergarten, we use SeeSaw as an online portfolio. We upload mainly photos and videos. SeeSaw is not only used by teachers and parents or guardians, but also students. During inquiry, SeeSaw is also used for activities so students can become inquirers at home as well. Through collaboration with the whole community everyone contributes to the support of the development of the students inquiry mindset.

Student growth and development is also reported through the daily contact book (renrakuchou). For K3 we write three times per year, for K4 and K5 two times per year. The written assessment in the book is not always unit related, but is connected to the childrens' growth as a whole.

This concludes Angel Kindergarten's assessment policy.