

# Early Start



## Fact sheet for parents

### ***What is Early Start?***

The early years of schooling (Prep – Year 2) are a significant time for your child as they develop the foundational literacy and numeracy skills for success in future learning and in later life. Due to the rate of learning and development that occurs within these years, schools continually monitor your child's literacy and numeracy progress to meet their individual needs.

From 2014, your school can opt to use *Early Start* to track progress and measure growth in literacy and numeracy for your child. Teachers will have the option of using *Early Start* with students at four points in time – On-entry to Prep, End of Prep, End of Year 1 and End of Year 2.

### ***How will Early Start benefit my child?***

Your child's teacher will administer the *Early Start* activities one-to-one with students. The teacher will enter your child's responses into OneSchool, the school data management system, which will provide them with information to assist with their curriculum planning for your child's learning needs.

Each literacy and numeracy activity takes about 20 minutes to administer, providing a wonderful opportunity for your child and their teacher to get to know each other. Teachers have the opportunity to complete these activities four times with your child from when they start Prep until they finish Year 2.

By administering *Early Start*, your child's teacher will get a clear picture of what your child knows and understands. They will use this information to make decisions about teaching and learning, and to monitor progress over time so that your child's needs are met.

Schools will not generate individual student reports from the *Early Start* data and will not award your child a 'grade' based on their results.

### ***How is Early Start being rolled out?***

Following a trial period this year, all schools will be able to administer the On-entry to Prep materials with their students from 2014. End of Prep, End of Year 1 and End of Year 2 materials are continuing to be trialled before release later in 2014 and 2015.

Visit [www.qld.gov.au/ http://education.qld.gov.au/strategic/advice/earlychildhood/early-start.html](http://www.qld.gov.au/education.qld.gov.au/strategic/advice/earlychildhood/early-start.html) to find out more.