**California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress**

# California Alternate Assessment for Science Parent and Guardian Notification Letter Template

California Department of Education • April 2025

**Directions:** Adapt this letter by using school letterhead and inserting school information where indicated in brackets.

Dear Parent/Guardian:

There are many ways to measure your child’s learning. Your child’s teacher uses report card grades, classroom work, teacher observations, and end-of-year statewide test results to gain a complete picture of your child’s learning. Your child’s individualized education program, or IEP, calls for your child to take the California Alternate Assessment for Science. This test will be given throughout the year as the science lessons are taught. Your child will be tested one-on-one by their teacher during the times that will allow your child to do their best.

The testing schedule is listed below:

**[*Insert school testing schedule*]**

You are an important part of your child’s education. To make sure your child feels comfortable taking the tests, you can do the following:

* Explain to your child that these tests are used to help them learn, and they should not be anxious or scared.
* Explore the practice tests with your child on the CAASPP and ELPAC Practice and Training Tests web page   
  <https://www.caaspp-elpac.org/resources/preparation/practice-and-training-tests>, so they can become familiar with the platform and setup of the tests.
* Remind your child that you and their teacher want them to try their best and are there to help, every step of the way.

You will receive your child’s results at or before the beginning of the next school year. The results will identify where your child is doing well or needs more help, so you can better support their learning at home and teachers can better support their learning in the classroom.

To learn more about these tests go to the CAASPP Starting Smarter website at <https://ca.startingsmarter.org/> or review the California Department of Education Parent Guides to Understanding web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/parentguidetounderstand.asp>.

If you have questions, please contact **[*insert name of school contact*]** at **[*insert phone number and/or e-mail address*].**

Sincerely,

**[*Insert name of LEA superintendent or school principal*]**

**[Superintendent/Principal]**