

UNIVERSAL SCREENING

BASC-3 Behavioral and Emotional Screening System (BESS)



Fall, Winter & Spring (2023-2024)



BASC[™]**3**



Pearson

5 Things you need to know about Universal Screening in MCSD

1. The screener is for all grades (PK-12) and completed 3x/yr. (Fall, Winter, & Spring).
2. The screener includes teacher/parent forms.
3. Teachers and students will complete the form at school.
4. Parents/legal guardians can complete the [form](#) at home.
 - [Why Social-Emotional and Behavioral Screening is Important](#)
 - [How to Complete the BESS Parent Form](#)
5. This will NOT be used to diagnose students but to help identify resources that can improve your child's overall well-being.



muscogee.k12.ga.us

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

Q: To what types of statements will a child be asked to respond?

A: Sample statements from the student form include: “I am liked by others,” “I worry but I don’t know why,” and “I like the way I look.”

Q: To what types of statements will a child’s teacher be asked to respond?

A: Sample statements from the teacher form include: “Pays attention,” “Is easily upset,” and “Has trouble keeping up in class.”

Q: To what types of statements will a child’s parent be asked to respond?

A: Sample questions from the parent form include: “Disobeys,” “Is easily distracted,” and “Organizes chores and other tasks well.”

Q: How much time will it take a child, teacher, or parent to complete the form?

A: The average completion time of all forms range from 10 minutes to 15 minutes but might be longer based on the individual.

Q: Will the results of the child’s form be available to parents?

A: Yes, parents will have access to the results of their child’s form. Additional consultation may also be provided by a professional at the child’s school.

Q: How will all forms' information be protected?

A: All forms should be stored within a data system, with the highest level of encryption. Access to information will be limited to parents and specific instructional leaders and staff for instructional planning purposes.

Q: How will the form's information be used by schools?

A: The form information will be used for the planning and implementation of social, emotional or behavioral supports to improve the wellness and academic achievement of all students. Outside resources may also be provided.

Q: Can a parent or child opt out of completing this form? If so, how?

A: Children under the age of 18 may not opt out of completing the screening. However, parents/legal guardians may sign and return the bottom portion of the BESS Opt-Out Letter to their child’s/children’s school(s) to opt out. For more information, click on the “More” tab and find the BESS Opt-Out Letter under “Quick Links” in the Parent Portal (Campus Portal). Returning the BESS Opt-Out Letter with your signature to your child’s school indicates you do not give consent for your child/children to complete the BESS screening. See the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment Notice for additional information.

Q: What contact information should be used for additional questions or concerns?

A: Contact your child’s school first. If further assistance is needed, contact MTSS@muscogee.k12.ga.us.