



Understanding Exact Path Learning Path Placement

An Evolution Designed for Accelerated Learning

The educational crisis facing our partners has motivated us to take bold and urgent action to help students recover faster from unfinished learning. Beginning this 2022-23 school year, we have updated how students in grades K–8 are placed into Exact Path learning paths, incorporating the research-based benefits of acceleration. The updated placement method stimulates greater student engagement and growth without delaying access to grade-level content. Here’s a brief breakdown of how you can think about [acceleration vs. remediation](#).

Acceleration	Remediation
<p>What is it? Keeping the primary focus on access to grade level content, layer in short just-in-time interventions to cover only the most critical prerequisite skills.</p>	<p>What is it? Pulling academically vulnerable students from tier 1 instruction to provide targeted support, beginning at the lowest point in their learning gaps and covering every missing skill.</p>

Proven by Research

An [analysis done by TNTP of data](#) from studies encompassing more than two million students in more than 100,000 elementary math classrooms shows compelling results for acceleration:

- *“Students who experienced learning acceleration struggled less and learned more than students who started at the same level but experienced remediation instead.”*
- *“Learning acceleration was particularly effective for students of color and those from low-income families.”*

Exact Path Placement Going Forward

To arrive at a method that incorporates the latest research, Exact Path now utilizes three additional sources of assessment data when deciding where to place students: each student’s overall proficiency, the time of year of the administration, and their enrolled grade-level. Combined, this table provides a general model of how students are now placed relative to their grade level.

Grade-Level Proficiency	Placement
Below	1.5 grades below in the fall 1 grade below in the winter 0.5 grade below in the spring
Approaching	1 grade below in the fall 0.5 grade below in the winter Beginning of grade-level in the spring
Meets	beginning of grade-level in the fall middle of grade-level in the winter end of grade-level in the spring
Exceeds	middle of grade-level in the fall end of grade-level in the winter beginning of above grade-level in the spring

Keep in mind, placement is just the beginning of each student’s individualized learning experience in Exact Path. The learning path continues to adapt after each Progress Check completed in the program. As students master concepts, they are accelerated, and if students struggle, they are met with just-in-time remediation which can provide support up two grade levels below the starting skill. As educators across the nation improve their own acceleration practices, Exact Path is poised to deliver quality instruction to propel student achievement.