How will the National Assessment results be reported?

The results from the National Assessment Program will be used for:
- Individual student reports to parents
- School reporting to their communities
- Information for annual school reports
- Information for My School website
- Collective reporting against national standards.

Most importantly, teachers will use the test data to further inform classroom teaching.

What will the reporting format look like?

There will be 10 bands covering years 3 - 9. At a given year level, students’ results will be reported using six of the levels.

What are the advantages of National testing?

The National Assessments provide greater consistency across all states and territories of Australia. This consistency will guide future planning for individual learning for each child – no matter what school system, or state or territory they are in.

There are also links between the years 3&5, 5&7 and 7&9 tests, so that over time Schools and Systems will be able to more effectively monitor each individual student’s progress.

For further information watch your school newsletter, visit the National Assessment Program website www.naplan.edu.au or please contact your local Catholic school.
National Tests

From last year, all Year 7 and Year 9 students in every state and territory of Australia undertook the same Literacy and Numeracy tests as part of the Federal Government’s National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN).

These are new tests and replace the NSW Statewide tests for Literacy (ELLA) and Numeracy (SNAP).

Why is there a National Assessment System?

The results from the National literacy and numeracy tests provide an important measure of how Australian students are performing in the content strands of numeracy, reading, writing and language (spelling, grammar and punctuation).

The assessments give students an opportunity to show what they have learned in class; provide a measure against National Benchmarks; and assist with future teaching/learning.

When are 2010 National Tests taking place?

All students across Australia in years 7 and 9 will sit the tests on May 11th, 12th and 13th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>TUESDAY 11th MAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 12th MAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY 13th MAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conventions</td>
<td>45 min</td>
<td>40 min x 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Break</td>
<td>65 min</td>
<td>(80 min total)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>40 min</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conventions</td>
<td>45 min</td>
<td>40 min x 2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>40 min</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* A calculator will be required for one of the tests – the calculator to be used is one that is currently being used and with which the student is most familiar.

What if your child is away?

It is very important for your child that they are at school on the test days. All schools are making these days free of all other major activities.

Do not plan holidays or appointments for these days.

If your child is ill, they can take the tests on FRIDAY 14th May.

How will teachers be preparing students for the tests?

Teachers will be ensuring that students are familiar with the structure of the tests through giving practice opportunities in class. If you would like to see the type of questions that will be asked, examples are available on the NAPLAN website. Go to www.naplan.edu.au

How to best support your child

Parents and carers can best assist their children by making them feel comfortable and assure them that the assessments will give them an opportunity to show what they have learned in class.

Most of all – reassure them that you are proud of them for who they are - not what they can do.

Supporting your children before the tests

😊 Ensure your child has a good night’s sleep

😊 Give them a solid healthy breakfast – but don’t overload them

😊 Provide healthy snacks and lunch on test days and plenty of water;

😊 Encourage their usual sport and recreational activities;

😊 Teens pick up cues from us – so keep it low key. The test will cover normal classroom/curriculum learnings learnt over a period of time – so no extra tutoring or last minute studying is necessary;

😊 Encourage your child to do their best but don’t put any pressure on them - emphasize that this is just one of many tests they will have during their schooling, and is designed to identify areas of strength as well as areas where improvement could be made.