



17 March 2022

Dear St Joseph's College Families

### **NAPLAN – Year 7 and Year 9 Students**

NAPLAN Online will take place for students in Year 7 and Year 9 from Tuesday May 10 to Thursday May 12. NAPLAN tests assess students knowledge and skills in Writing, Reading, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. The results of the test provide information for students, parents, teachers and principals, and can be used to improve student achievement.

NAPLAN is now conducted online. Therefore, students are required to have their device fully charged the night before school and are asked to bring headphones for each test.

NAPLAN Online delivers numerous benefits including:

- A 'tailored test' design that adapts to correct and incorrect student responses providing a more precise understanding of student achievement.
- Innovative use of technology, including a more engaging test design and a wider range of item types.
- The extension of the 'test window' to two weeks, allowing schools greater opportunity to schedule the tests at times that suit them best and increasing student participation.

All students are expected to participate in the NAPLAN Online tests.

Support can be arranged for students with disabilities if the student regularly uses similar support for classroom assessment tasks.

Exemptions may be granted to students with significant intellectual disabilities and to students who have been learning English for less than one year. If your child is eligible for support due to disability or exemption, you should discuss this with their teacher prior to the tests. Parental consent is required before any support due to disability or exemption is granted.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents and carers in consultation with the Principal. If, after consultation, you decide to withdraw your child, you must sign a student withdrawal form. These forms are available from the school. Please contact Mrs Melanie Saleta or Mr Emmet Brown if you wish to explore this option.

Later in the year you will receive your child's personal NAPLAN report. The report will describe your child's particular skills and knowledge in literacy and numeracy and how your child performed in relation to national minimum standards. These describe the minimum acceptable standards for students across Australia.

I am confident that the information you receive as a result of your child's participation in the NAPLAN tests will be valuable in helping you to assess your child's progress in literacy and numeracy.

For more information about NAPLAN Online, please visit the VCAA website at [www.vcaa.vic.edu.au](http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au) or the NAP website at [www.nap.edu.au](http://www.nap.edu.au)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Greg Kluske', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Mr Greg Kluske**  
Deputy Principal Learning and Teaching

# NAPLAN – information for parents and carers



2022

## Why do students do NAPLAN?

NAPLAN is a national literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit in May each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students do.

As students progress through their school years, it's important to check how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum and allows parents/carers to see how their child is progressing against national standards and over time.

NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It doesn't replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance, but it can provide teachers with additional information about students' progress.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

## Your child will do the NAPLAN tests online

Schools are transitioning from paper-based to computer-based assessments. Most schools will complete NAPLAN tests online in 2022. All Year 3 students will continue to complete the writing assessment on paper.

Online NAPLAN tests provide more precise results and are more engaging for students. One of the main benefits is tailored (or adaptive) testing, where the test presents questions which may be more or less difficult depending on a student's responses.

Tailored testing allows a wider range of student abilities to be assessed and measures student achievement more precisely. A student's overall NAPLAN result is based on both the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions challenging; they may be taking a more complex test pathway.

## What does NAPLAN assess?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum.

Students sit assessments in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. Questions assess content linked to the Australian Curriculum: English and Mathematics.

All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN test materials.

To find out more about NAPLAN, visit [nap.edu.au](http://nap.edu.au)

## Participation in NAPLAN

NAPLAN is for everyone. ACARA supports inclusive testing so all students can participate in the national assessment program.

Adjustments are available for students with disability who have diverse functional abilities and needs.

Schools should work with parents/carers and students to identify, on a case-by-case basis, reasonable adjustments required for individual students with disability to access NAPLAN. Adjustments should reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments.

To help inform these decisions, you may consult the [NAPLAN public demonstration site](#), the [Guide for schools to assist students with disability to access NAPLAN](#), or our [series of videos](#) where parents/carers, teachers and students share their experience of using NAPLAN adjustments.

In exceptional circumstances, a student with a disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background, may be granted a formal exemption.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on adjustments for students with disability or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

## What if my child is absent from school on NAPLAN days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule.

## What can I do to support my child?

Students are not expected to study for NAPLAN.

You can support your child by reassuring them that NAPLAN is a part of their school program and reminding them to simply do their best.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of services by coaching providers.

Some familiarisation and explanation of NAPLAN is useful to help students understand and be comfortable with the format of the tests. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

See the types of questions and tools available in the online NAPLAN assessments at [nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site](http://nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site)

## NAPLAN timetable

The NAPLAN online test window is nine days. This is to accommodate schools that may have fewer devices.

The NAPLAN online test window starts on Tuesday 10 May and finishes on Friday 20 May 2022. Tests must be scheduled as soon as possible within the testing window, prioritising the first week.

Online NAPLAN test scheduling requirements are detailed in the table below.

## How is my child's performance reported?

Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each assessment. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student has demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be provided by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school.

## How are NAPLAN results used?

- Students and parents/carers may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help identify students who need greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas of need to improve teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see information about the performance of schools over time at [myschool.edu.au](http://myschool.edu.au)

## Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at [nap.edu.au/TAA](http://nap.edu.au/TAA)
- visit [nap.edu.au](http://nap.edu.au)

To learn how ACARA handles personal information for NAPLAN, visit [nap.edu.au/naplan/privacy](http://nap.edu.au/naplan/privacy)

Test	Scheduling requirements	Duration	Test description
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Year 3 students do the writing test on paper (on day 1 only)</li><li>• Year 5 writing must start on day 1 (schools must prioritise completion of writing across days 1 and 2 only)</li><li>• Years 7 and 9 writing must start on day 2 (schools must prioritise completion of writing across days 2 and 3 only)</li></ul>	Year 3: 40 min. Year 5: 42 min. Year 7: 42 min. Year 9: 42 min.	Students are provided with a 'writing stimulus' (sometimes called a 'prompt' – an idea or topic) and asked to write a response in a particular genre (narrative or persuasive writing)
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To ensure online schools are able to complete NAPLAN tests within the nine-day testing window, Year 7 and 9 students can start with reading on day 1; however, writing must start on day 2</li><li>• To be completed <b>before</b> the conventions of language test</li></ul>	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts and then answer related questions
Conventions of language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To be completed <b>after</b> the reading test</li></ul>	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 45 min. Year 7: 45 min. Year 9: 45 min.	Assesses spelling, grammar and punctuation
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To be completed <b>after</b> the conventions of language test</li></ul>	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	Assesses number and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability