

What is NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses the literacy and numeracy skills of students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

Students participate in NAPLAN tests in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

NAPLAN provides an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. The tests are just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process – it does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance.

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

The benefits of NAPLAN tests online

More precise results with an adaptive design:

Tailored tests adapt to a student's performance and ask questions that match the student's achievement levels.

Better engagement: Research into online assessment indicates that students engage well with online tests as the questions are tailored to their achievement levels.

Tailored testing

Tailored testing provides a more precise assessment of a student's performance. Students at each year level start the tests with a similar set of questions. Depending on the number of questions they answer correctly, the next set of questions may be more, or less, difficult.

A student's NAPLAN result is based on both the amount and difficulty of questions the student answers correctly. A student who completes a more difficult set of questions is more likely to achieve a higher score.

Watch a video (3:06 length) to learn more about tailored testing: <https://youtu.be/oGFseJAM3Ew>

Supporting your child

The best approach for preparing your child for NAPLAN is to encourage your child to do the best they can on the day.

Excessive preparation or the use of coaching providers is not recommended.

Students can use the public demonstration site to practise the tools and type of questions they will experience in NAPLAN:

<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>

NAPLAN 2023 test window

From 2023, NAPLAN will be held in March. This change has been made so results can be returned to schools earlier in the year. This will support teachers to understand the learning needs of their students and allow them to plan accordingly.

NAPLAN test window: 15 – 27 March 2023.

The 9-day test window accommodates schools with fewer devices that require flexibility in scheduling.

What if my child was absent on the day of a scheduled NAPLAN test?

Where possible, schools may arrange catch-up tests for individual students who were absent on the day of a scheduled NAPLAN test.

All Year 3 writing catch-up tests must be completed by Friday 20 March 2023.

All other catch-up tests must be completed by Monday 27 March 2023.

COVID-19 advice

Parents should keep students at home if they are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.

Your child's school will be required to conduct NAPLAN testing in accordance with the latest NSW Government COVID-19 advice.

Year 3 writing test

The Year 3 writing test is conducted on paper. All other Year 3 NAPLAN tests will be online.

Students' digital skills

The digital skills required to complete NAPLAN are skills that students use in everyday classroom activities.

Students do not need to be able to touch type to complete the test. The online test is not about keyboard skills (just as the paper test was not about handwriting skills).

Withdrawals and exemptions

You can withdraw your child from NAPLAN tests.

A student may be granted a formal exemption if they have:

- significant intellectual disability and/or students with significant comorbidity that severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests, or
- a language background other than English, arrived from overseas and have been attending school in Australia for less than a year before the test.

Contact your child's school for further information and to complete the parent/carer consent form.

Privacy

NESA is responsible for the collection of personal information from NSW schools to be used during NAPLAN testing and reporting.

All data collected for NAPLAN is managed in accordance with NSW and Federal privacy legislation described in NESA's privacy management plan, which can be found on the NESA website:

<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/about/who-we-are/privacy/naplan-privacy>

Results

Parents/carers receive two reports showing their child's achievements in NAPLAN: the individual student report (ISR) and additional student report (ASR). The ISR and ASR should always be interpreted with care. Teachers will have the best insight into a child's educational progress.

Reports are dispatched to schools who then distribute the reports to parents/carers.

More information

For further NAPLAN information visit:

<https://nap.edu.au/naplan/for-parents-carers>

Questions?

If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher in the first instance.

NSW Education Standards Authority

NAPLAN team

Phone: 1300 119 556 or (02) 9367 8382

Email: naplan.nsw@nesa.nsw.edu.au