

February 2018 update

Dear Parent or Caregiver

Re: HSC minimum standard update for Year 10 parents

The NSW government is committed to requiring students to demonstrate a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy to receive the HSC from 2020, because these skills are needed for success in life after school.

There will be multiple opportunities for your child to show they meet the HSC minimum standard by passing online tests of basic reading, writing and numeracy skills. These tests can be taken when your child is ready – be that this year, in Year 11 or 12 or after the HSC. The first minimum standard online test period opened yesterday.

From this year, **Year 9 NAPLAN tests will no longer be an early way for students to demonstrate the standard.**

This change has been made to ensure NAPLAN remains focussed on its original diagnostic purpose and reduce unnecessary stress on young people.

Please be assured that **if your child achieved Band 8s or above in one or more of the 2017 Year 9 NAPLAN reading, writing or numeracy tests, they are recognised as having met the HSC minimum standard in that area/s and will not need to sit the corresponding online test/s.**

For more information, and flyers about the online tests and what they involve, visit the NESA website: educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/HSCminimumstandard

Yours sincerely

David de Carvalho
NESA Chief Executive Officer

IMPROVING LITERACY AND NUMERACY

ADVICE FOR PARENTS OF YEAR 10 STUDENTS

February 2018 update

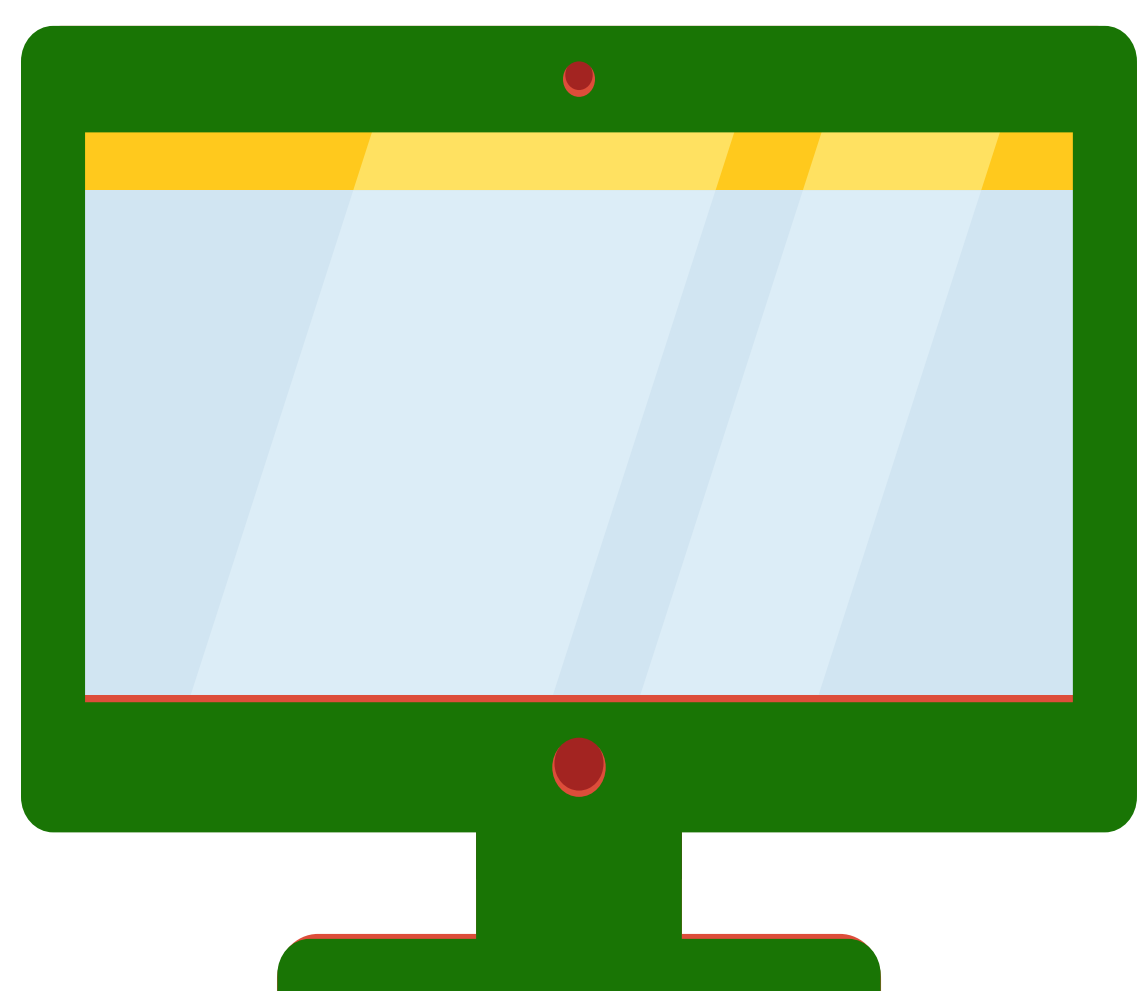
A **minimum standard** of literacy and numeracy is required for your child to receive their Higher School Certificate (HSC).



Meeting the HSC minimum standard will mean that your child has the literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for success in learning and life after school.

THE ONLINE TESTS

Most students will show they have met the HSC minimum standard by passing minimum standard online tests. Students master basic skills at different stages so there are **multiple opportunities** available to pass the tests, from Year 10 until a few years after Year 12.



There are three 45-minute online tests:

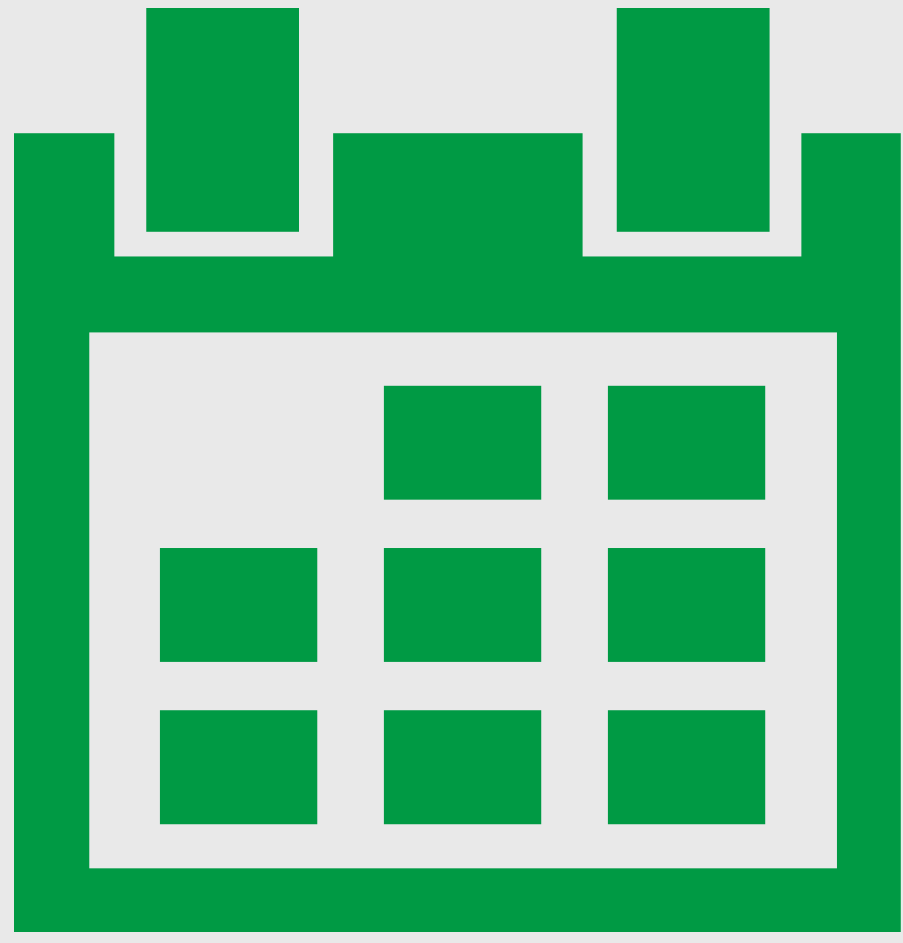
- ✓ a multiple choice **reading** test
- ✓ a multiple choice **numeracy** test
- ✓ a short **writing** test based on a choice between a visual or written prompt

2017 NAPLAN TESTS

If your child achieved Band 8s or above in one or more of the 2017 Year 9 NAPLAN tests they are recognised as having met the HSC minimum standard in that area/s and will not need to sit the corresponding online test/s.

TEST DATES

Students will have two opportunities a year, from Year 10 until a few years after Year 12, to pass each online test.



The online test dates (school days only) for 2018 are:

- Term 1: 19 February to 23 March 2018
- Term 2: 21 May to 22 June 2018
- Term 3: 13 August to 14 September 2018
- Term 4: 5 November to 7 December 2018

WHAT TO EXPECT?

To help your child understand what to expect in the online tests, they are encouraged to visit educationstandards.nesa.nsw.edu.au/HSCminimumstandard to:

- ✓ try demonstration questions to get a feel for the test format
- ✓ view sample test questions and answers online



Your child's school may also organise short practice tests.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Some students with disabilities will be eligible for extra provisions for the minimum standard online tests, or an exemption from the HSC minimum standard requirement.

Students are encouraged to talk to their teachers to determine whether they are eligible for provisions. A Disability Provisions, Exemptions and Appeals policy, which contains further information, is available on the NESAs website.

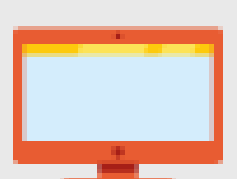
MORE INFORMATION

Contact your child's school principal for more detailed information about the HSC minimum standard or visit the NESAs website:

educationstandards.nesa.nsw.edu.au/HSCminimumstandard

STAY UP TO DATE

NSW Education Standards Authority



educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/HSCminimumstandard



@NewsAtNESA



Subscribe to NESAs News

