How to read the student report

A student’s result is shown on an assessment scale for each assessment area.

Results across the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 literacy and numeracy assessments are reported on a scale from Band 1 to Band 10. The achievement scale represents increasing levels of skills and understandings demonstrated in the assessments.

For example, results for Year 3 are reported across the range of Band 1 to Band 6.

The dot shows an individual student’s result.

The black triangle shows the national average for Year 3 students.

The lightly shaded area shows the range of achievement for the middle 60% of Year 3 students in Australia.

Further information

For more information and discussion about your child’s results please contact your child’s teacher or school principal.

For more information about NAPLAN results and reports visit the National Assessment Program website www.nap.edu.au.
National Assessment Program — Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests

In May this year, national literacy and numeracy tests were administered to students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 throughout Australia. Over one million students from almost 10,000 schools across Australia participated in these national tests. Your child’s NAPLAN report shows you how your child is performing:

- compared with other Australian students
- in relation to the National Minimum Standards.

It is also possible to get a sense of your child’s achievement over time by looking at previous NAPLAN reports, however caution should be exercised as the results refer to a single point in time only and may not reflect the full range of your child's ability. In 2011 a new writing scale was established for persuasive writing, this is not comparable with the narrative writing scale from previous years (ie 2008-2010).

What is assessed in NAPLAN testing?
The literacy tests measure student achievement in reading, writing and language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation). The numeracy tests measure student achievement in number; algebra, function and pattern; measurement, chance and data; and space.

The purpose of NAPLAN testing

NAPLAN results at school, system, and national levels are used to identify the strengths and weaknesses of education programs and to help set goals for improvement. In the classroom, NAPLAN results show teachers how their students’ achievement compares to a wider group of students across Australia. Individual student reports can be used to inform discussion between parents and teachers about your child’s achievements and progress.

It is important to remember that the results reflect each student’s performance at a single point in time only. Teachers in all schools assess their students’ learning in literacy and numeracy on an ongoing basis. NAPLAN testing complements but does not replace the information that teachers gather.

School Reporting

Average school results for the NAPLAN tests are reported in a nationally comparable way on the My School website (www.myschool.edu.au). This website provides parents and community members with information to make informed choices and decisions to drive school improvement.

Individual Student Reports

The format of the NAPLAN student reports is the same for all Australian states and territories and it has been set nationally for reporting student achievement to parents and carers. Each report includes:

- student and school details
- information about the NAPLAN tests
- information on how to read the student report
- individual student’s achievement results for reading, persuasive writing, language conventions, and numeracy on the NAPLAN Assessment Scales
- an indicator for each assessment area that shows the national average and the middle 60% of national results
- a written description for each assessment area identifying the type of skills assessed
- a table describing skills students are likely to demonstrate in each of the bands.

Some reports also include an indicator for the school’s average result.

Reading the Individual Student Report

Your child’s result is represented by a black dot on each graph. The skills associated with the band in which the dot falls are described on the back page of the report. A student assessed in a particular band is likely to have correctly answered questions involving skills in that band and in each band below it. Your child’s results can be compared with results for the middle 60% of Australian students and/or with the national average for his or her year level.

Assessment Scales and National Minimum Standards

Each of the NAPLAN Assessment Scales describes student achievement from Year 3 through to Year 9 along a common scale, which is divided into ten bands. The bands show the increasing complexity of the skills assessed by NAPLAN. Six of the bands are used for reporting student performance at each year level.

The National Minimum Standards cover one band at each year level and describe some of the skills and understandings students can generally demonstrate at their particular year of schooling. They represent increasingly challenging skills and understandings as students progress from Year 3 to Year 9. If your child’s result is in this band or below, then it is recommended that you discuss this result with your child’s school:

- for Year 3 the minimum standard is Band 2
- for Year 5 the minimum standard is Band 4
- for Year 7 the minimum standard is Band 5
- for Year 9 the minimum standard is Band 6

NAPLAN Assessment Scale graph examples

- Year 3 Reading: The black dot indicates that this Year 3 student has achieved a result in Band 4 for Reading just above the national average. The black triangle indicates the national average for Year 3 students. The light blue area shows the range of achievement for the middle 60% of Year 3 students.
- Year 5 Writing (persuasive): The black dot indicates that this Year 5 student has achieved a result below the national minimum standard for Writing (persuasive). It is recommended that results such as this should be discussed with the school.
- Year 7 Numeracy: The black dot indicates that this Year 7 student has achieved a result in Band 9 for Numeracy, well above the majority of Numeracy results and the national average for Year 7 students.