



Cheltenham Girls' High School

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7th August, 2017

NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

As part of the transition to move NAPLAN from a paper based to an online test, a school readiness test will be undertaken by NSW schools in August and September this year. The school readiness test is to provide school staff and students the opportunity to:

- Engage and become familiar with the NAPLAN Online assessment platform;
- Gain insight into the changed administrative procedures;
- Provide valuable feedback on areas in which schools need additional support

Year 7 and Year 9 Cheltenham Girls High School students will be participating in the NAPLAN Online Readiness test In Week 8 (September 4-8) of Term 3 2017. There are two tests: an omnibus test (includes questions from the domains of numeracy, reading, and conventions of language) and a writing test. The timetables for students will be distributed at a later date.

The purpose of the readiness test is to see if schools have the capability to run NAPLAN Online and for this reason, the results of the school and individual students will not be released.

The following items are **not** permitted to be taken into the NAPLAN Online tests:

- Books
- Rulers
- Mobile phones
- Protractors/mathematical templates
- Calculators

All students will require headphones to complete the NPALN Online tests so students are required to bring their own on the day.

Friday 8 September – A 'catch-up' day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if they:

- are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

Truth - Unity - Concord

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student's normal level of support in the classroom may be provided.

Access to disability adjustment or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the Head Teacher Secondary Studies, Mr Cunningham, and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the Principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with Mr Cunningham if you would like to discuss your child's participation in NAPLAN Online.

Additional information about NAPLAN Online including frequently asked questions can be found at:

<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online>

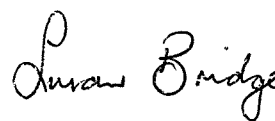
Students and parents can also access the NAPLAN Online public demonstration site, which enables you to complete mini tests and interaction tests which features sample questions with a range of interaction types:

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

Yours sincerely



Daniel Cunningham
Head Teacher Secondary Studies



Susan Bridge
Principal

Fact sheet for parents and carers

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Planning has begun to move NAPLAN from a pen and paper assessment to an online assessment.

What are the benefits of NAPLAN Online?

Results will be faster and more precise

- Your child's individual results will be returned to you within just a few weeks of the NAPLAN testing.
- Online assessment will reduce the time it takes to mark and provide feedback to schools, teachers and parents.
- Improved precision and timing of results will help teachers to tailor their teaching more specifically to address students' learning needs.

Tailored tests will provide better assessment

- The online format allows for 'tailored testing', where the test adapts to a student's performance and asks questions that match their achievement level.
- Students in each year level start with the same set of questions which can then branch into a different set of questions based on their responses to the first set of questions.
- This means that students will be directed to questions that may be easier or more challenging depending on their responses.
- This test design will allow students to better demonstrate their literacy and numeracy skills.
- Students find online assessment is more engaging*, which means they are encouraged to persist longer and try harder.

* Research by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) into online assessment has shown that students have engaged well with electronic tests.

NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test

NSW schools will participate in a school readiness test between 14 August and 22 September 2017.

The school readiness test is a 'practice run' for schools to assess their technology ahead of NAPLAN Online. The readiness test is not an assessment of student ability. The readiness test allows schools to:

- become familiar with the NAPLAN Online test format and processes
- check whether they have the technical capacity, rooms and devices to administer NAPLAN Online
- provide students in NAPLAN years 3, 5, 7 and 9 with the opportunity to experience the online test question types and format by completing a practice NAPLAN online test.

For more information

Parents, students and schools interested in familiarising themselves with the NAPLAN Online format can access the NAPLAN Online demonstration site that includes sample tests for each NAPLAN year. Use the following link:

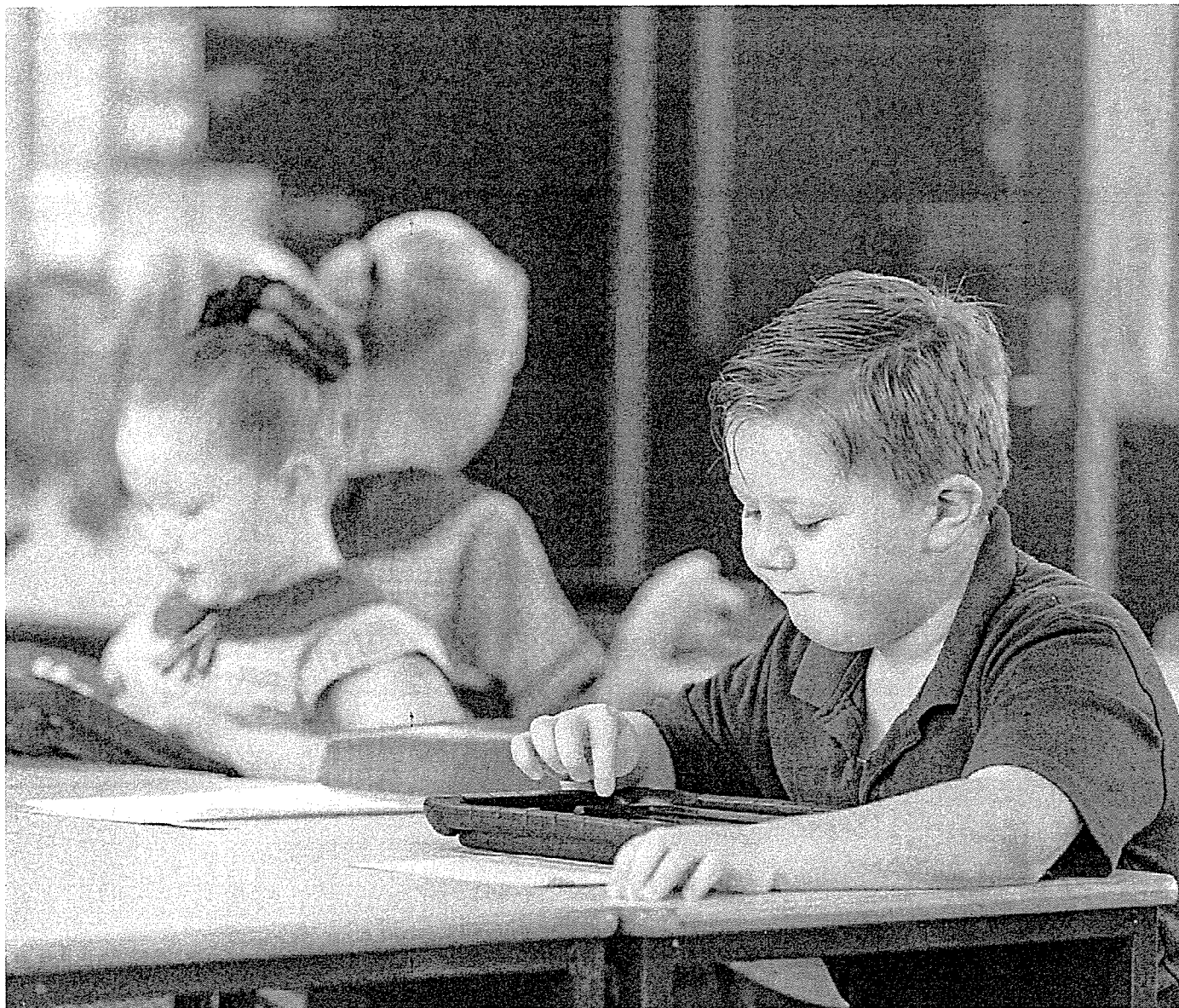
<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online/naplan-online-public-demonstration-site>

Further information about NAPLAN Online is available on the national ACARA website:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online>

Contact your school principal or visit the ACARA NAP website for more detailed information:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/online-assessment.html>



Frequently asked questions

Which students will participate in the NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test?

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will participate.

How should I prepare my child for the NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test?

Your child will not need any academic preparation for the school readiness test. This is not a test of their literacy and numeracy skills, but an opportunity for them to experience the online test format and for their school to assess its online testing capability.

How long is the school readiness test?

The school readiness test is expected to include two assessments: a writing assessment* and a combined numeracy/literacy assessment. The duration of each assessment will be approximately 40 minutes.

** Year 3 students will only be expected to complete the combined numeracy/literacy assessment.*

When will my school participate in the readiness test?

One week within the test period in August and September will be identified for each school to conduct readiness testing.

How will students be prevented from using the internet or spellcheckers when completing the test?

The NAPLAN Online assessment platform will have state-of-the-art security protections. The assessment is delivered inside a locked-down browser. This ensures students cannot access the internet or spellcheckers while completing the test.

Will schools and parents be provided with information on the results of the readiness test?

There will be feedback to schools about the technical information gained from the readiness testing. There will be no reporting of student test results from the readiness test.