



St Clare's College

13 August 2018

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 7 & 9 Students,

Re: School Readiness Testing for NAPLAN Online

Any school in NSW who is transitioning to NAPLAN Online in 2019 will need to participate in a School Readiness Test (SRT). Only secondary schools in Sydney Catholic Schools will participate in this readiness test this year.

Students in Year 7 & 9 will sit this test at St Clare's College on **Monday, 27 August 2018**. The test will ensure schools are ready to undertake NAPLAN Online in 2019. It also allows students and teachers to familiarise themselves with the online system and experience the test delivery method.

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 and to provide students in NAPLAN Years 7 and 9 with the opportunity to experience the online test question types and format by completing a practice NAPLAN online test.

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.
- Online assessment will reduce the time it takes to 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.



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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.

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/public-demonstration-site>

Further information about NAPLAN Online is available on the national ACARA website: <http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment>

We believe this is a valuable exercise to continue the ongoing development of teaching and learning at St Clare's. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at the College.

Yours sincerely,

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Director of Learning and Teaching

Mrs Antoinette McGahan
College Principal