

NAPLAN ONLINE DATA EXTRACT DICTIONARY

Version 1

Endorsed by the Online Assessment Working Group (OAWG) out of session,
paper dated March 2018

1. BACKGROUND

On 31 October 2014, the Council of Australian Governments – Education Council [agreed](#) that the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (**NAPLAN**) assessments should transition from paper-based to online delivery at a time to be agreed by ministers.

1.1. Multilateral deed and Australian Education Regulation 2013

In order to support the move to NAPLAN Online, and as student information will be entered into the online platform, the Deed In Relation To The Exchange Of Data For Online Activities Associated With NAPLAN 2018 (**Deed**) has been signed by jurisdictions planning to participate in NAPLAN Online in 2018. Under the terms of this Deed, ACARA will have custody and control over the data set comprising the ACARA Data Set.

Importantly, the student information that is disclosed to ACARA and forms the ACARA Data Set does **not** identify any student. That is, ACARA is **not** able to link individual student information with student names. ACARA is also **not** able to link this information to any other information that ACARA holds, in a way that would enable ACARA to identify a student. In addition, under section 40 of the *Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority Act 2008* (Cth) (**ACARA Act**), ACARA is only able to collect and use personal information for limited purposes. This restriction is reflected in the Deed.

During the process of developing the Deed, government and non-government school representatives advised that it would be preferable if Commonwealth legislation was more explicit about requirements for disclosure of anonymised student-level information to ACARA for the purposes of NAPLAN.

To address this, the *Australian Education Regulation 2013* (**Regulation**) was amended, with those amendments commencing on 1 January 2018, to specify with greater certainty the student information (anonymised personal information) that approved authorities for schools must provide to ACARA for the purposes of NAPLAN and the NAP sample assessments in science literacy, civics and citizenship and ICT literacy.

1.2. Requirements of the Regulation

Subregulation 43(3) of the Regulation requires an approved authority¹ for a school to provide to ACARA the following information about each student at the school, who is required to undertake, relevantly, the NAPLAN assessments:

- a. the student's results in the assessment or, if the student did not undertake the assessment, an indication of that fact (applies to both the NAPLAN paper tests and the NAPLAN online tests);
- b. the information specified in the [Data Standards Manual: Student Background Characteristics](#) (applies to both the NAPLAN paper tests and the NAPLAN online tests); and
- c. for NAPLAN assessments in reading, writing and language conventions, and numeracy, the information specified in the NAPLAN Online Data Extract Dictionary (applies only to the NAPLAN online tests).

This document satisfies the requirements of the third paragraph above and only deals with NAPLAN Online.

2. PURPOSE AND INTENDED AUDIENCE

This document is the NAPLAN Online Data Extract Dictionary referred to in subregulation 43(3) of the Regulation.

The intended audience of this document includes:

- a. representatives from each approved authority for a school; and
- b. members of the public.

This document will be published on the [ACARA website](#).

3. SCOPE OF THE NAPLAN ONLINE DATA EXTRACT DICTIONARY

3.1. In scope

An approved authority for a school must provide information about each student at the school who is required to undertake the NAPLAN assessments in reading, writing and language conventions, and numeracy. In respect of those students who undertake NAPLAN online, an approved authority for a school must provide information, including and not limited to, the information in the NAPLAN Online Data Extract Dictionary, as set out in the table found at attachment A to this document.

¹ An approved authority for a school is the legal entity for the school that is approved to receive Australian Government schools funding. For example, for government schools, it is the relevant State or Territory government. For non-government schools, it will generally be the entity that operates the school.

3.2. Out of scope

The NAPLAN Online Data Extract Dictionary:

- a. excludes information that is already covered in the [Data Standards Manual: Student Background Characteristics](#) (2017). For example, information on:
 1. sex;
 2. Indigenous status;
 3. socio-economic background (parent school education, parent non-school education and parent occupation); and
 4. language background other than English status.

This information is already provided to ACARA under existing (NAPLAN paper test) arrangements.

- b. excludes information obtained from other test events, related to NAPLAN, but not forming part of the final NAPLAN online tests. For example, information on:
 1. NAPLAN paper tests;
 2. NAPLAN Online preparatory activities (such as school readiness tests and platform readiness tests); and
 3. ACARA's trialling and equating tests.

4. NOTES

4.1. Table

The table at attachment A to this document:

- a. lists the categories of information to be provided to ACARA (noting that for some categories, there will be multiple data fields, such as reaction time); and
- b. is a subset of the information categories set out in the ACARA Data Set (as listed in schedule 1, table 1 of the Deed for NAPLAN 2018).

4.2. Changes to the NAPLAN Online Data Extract Dictionary

Any changes to the ACARA Data Set for future NAPLAN years may necessitate a new NAPLAN Online Data Extract Dictionary.

Significant changes to the NAPLAN Online Data Extract Dictionary will require endorsement by the Australian Education Senior Officials Committee (AESOC), the Online Assessment Working Group, or a group nominated by AESOC.

5. NEW SUBREGULATION 43(3) OF THE REGULATION

To access the Regulation, updated for these amendments, visit the Australian Government [Federal Register of Legislation website](#).

6. ATTACHMENT A – TABLE

NAPLAN Online Data Extract Dictionary – information to be provided to ACARA	
Information about each student:	Description of the information to be provided:
TAA	The name of the test administration authority (TAA) for the school that the student attends.
Year level	The student's year of schooling. <u>Note:</u> this will only be Years 3, 5, 7, 9 or ungraded.
School name and ID	The name of the school that the student attends. <u>Note:</u> this must be the name as registered with the relevant state or territory authority. ACARA generates the school ID.
PSI	If the student is undertaking a NAPLAN assessment online, the student's platform student identifier (PSI). <u>Note:</u> this is the student identifier generated by the online assessment platform for the student.
Geolocation	The geographical remoteness area, as per the Australian Standard Geographic Classification (ASGC) for the school that the student attends.
Sector	State/territory government school or non-government school. Sector information is provided for the school that the student attends.
DOB	The student's date of birth (DOB).
Participation code	The student's participation code for each NAPLAN test that the student is undertaking. <u>Note:</u> participation codes are set by the relevant test administration authority and are based on conditions and rules defined in the NAPLAN National Protocols for Test Administration (ACARA).

Technical disruption	The student's technical disruption code for each NAPLAN test the student is undertaking, if relevant. Note: technical disruption codes are based on conditions and rules defined in the NAPLAN National Protocols for Test Administration (ACARA).
Testlet scores	The student's testlet score for each test.
Responses	The student's responses, as follows: 1. Score for each item (correct/incorrect) when data extract includes students with Personal Needs and Preferences (PNP) codes. 2. Response for multiple choice items and scores for all other item types when data extract does not include students with PNP codes. 3. Criteria marks for each writing task.
Reaction time	The time the student took to answer each item of each NAPLAN test. Note: A. This information is automatically generated by the online assessment platform when a student undertakes a NAPLAN test. B. This information may include multiple reaction times for each item where the student changed their answer.
Device	The device used by the student for each NAPLAN test. <u>Note</u> : this is restricted to agreed device types, as determined by the Online Assessment Working Group.