

AN OPEN LETTER TO TEACHERS: NAPLAN 2018

Dear teachers,

We know every child needs numeracy and literacy skills for a well-rounded education. These are the universal building blocks that provide all children with the foundation skills they need as they progress through school and beyond.

We also know that teachers are at the heart of your students' learning, with insight into your students' skills and abilities.

NAPLAN doesn't test everything that happens in your classroom – and it isn't designed to. Instead, NAPLAN is intended to complement your school-level literacy and numeracy assessments. It adds value by providing information that compares results with national expectations and performance of other students in your school and with students across the country. It's the only national assessment that all children undertake.

NAPLAN helps identify areas where more support may be needed in the critically important areas of literacy and numeracy – skills that every child will need, regardless of career choice.

In preparation for NAPLAN, which is held this year from 15 May, every student should be encouraged to continue their daily classroom learning with their peers. In my view, apart from familiarisation with the form of the test, there is no need to specifically prepare for NAPLAN.

Some students may benefit from seeing NAPLAN's style and presentation. In this case, you can use some example resources for teachers on the NAP website.

Thank you for your participation in NAPLAN. We know that teachers are the ones who make the difference in students' lives. NAPLAN is designed to assist you by providing information to support your in-class assessments and to help ensure that all Australian children have the skills that will allow them to succeed at school and beyond.

For more information, including fact sheets, FAQs and adjustments for students with disabilities, please [visit the NAP website](#).

Best wishes,

Robert Randall ACARA CEO