



18 August 2017

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Your son / daughter has received their Year 9 NAPLAN results. This year's Year 9 students are the first cohort required to demonstrate a minimum standard of reading, writing and numeracy to receive the HSC. This change is being introduced to help ensure that students have developed the essential literacy and numeracy skills needed for success in life after school.

Remember your child has three more years of learning before the HSC. Year 9 NAPLAN is a chance to check they are on track or get support to meet the minimum standard by Year 12.

Students who achieved the minimum standard early:

Year 9 NAPLAN is the first of a number of opportunities students have to demonstrate the HSC minimum standard. This means:

- Students who achieve Band 8 or above in Year 9 NAPLAN reading will have met the HSC minimum standard in reading early.
- Students who achieve Band 8 or above in Year 9 NAPLAN writing will have met the HSC minimum standard in writing early.
- Students who achieve Band 8 or above in Year 9 NAPLAN numeracy will have met the HSC minimum standard in numeracy early.

Students that have shown they have met the HSC minimum standard for reading, writing and numeracy early will not be required to take the further online HSC minimum standard tests

Students who didn't achieve the minimum standard early:

Students have three years – Years 10, 11 and 12 – to complete the tests to demonstrate that they have met the HSC minimum standard. All three new HSC minimum standard tests – reading, writing and numeracy – will be available on demand in Weeks 4- 8 of each term in Years 10, 11 and 12. That allows five weeks each term, or 20 weeks per year, for students to sit the tests.

Students can take any of the new HSC minimum standard tests in any of these five week term windows through Years 10, 11 and 12. For example, students who need to sit all three tests to meet the HSC minimum standard do not have to sit all of the tests at the same time: in consultation with their teachers, students can decide when they are ready to sit each of the HSC minimum standard tests.

The HSC minimum standard tests do not have to be taken by a full cohort at a single point in time. Within the term window, the organisation and timing of the tests will be a school decision. Students do not have to sit the HSC minimum standard tests in school groups – they can sit as individuals, or in small groups, or in any combination and at any time that suits your school.

In 2018 the HSC minimum standard tests will be available on the following dates:

- Term 1: 19 February to 23 March 2018
- Term 2: 21 May to 22 June 2018
- Term 3: 13 August to 14 September 2018
- Term 4: 5 November to 7 December 2018

How many times can a student sit the tests?

A student can sit each HSC minimum standard test a maximum of twice in a calendar year.

Reporting of results:

Students and schools will receive a report of their performance in the new HSC minimum standard reading, writing and numeracy tests. A sample of the test report will be available in Term 1, 2018.

Disability Provisions:

Disability provisions will be available for students with a permanent or temporary disability. All students will be able to change the font size and screen colour. These disability provisions will be in line with the NESAs disability provisions for the current Literacy and Numeracy tests and HSC exams. A disability provisions policy for the HSC minimum standard literacy and numeracy tests will be developed and released by the end of 2017.

Exemptions:

Students who are enrolled in a full HSC Life Skills program, or in HSC Life Skills English and Maths, will not need to meet the HSC minimum standard to be awarded the HSC. Further information on NESAs exemption policy will be provided before the end of 2017.

If you have any questions / queries please don't hesitate to contact me or one of the Stage 5 team (Mr Anthony Green / Mrs Mary Skjellerup) at the school on 9208 7200

Yours faithfully,



Mr Peter Regan
Acting Principal