# IMPROVING LITERACY AND NUMERACY

**ADVICE FOR PARENTS OF YEAR 10 STUDENTS** 

February 2018 update

A minimum standard of literacy and numeracy is required for your child to receive their Higher School Certificate (HSC).



Meeting the HSC minimum standard will mean that your child has the literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for success in learning and life after school.

#### THE ONLINE TESTS

Most students will show they have met the HSC minimum standard by passing minimum standard online tests. Students master basic skills at different stages so there are multiple opportunities available to pass the tests, from Year 10 until a few years after Year 12.



There are three 45-minute online tests:

- a multiple choice readingtest
- a multiple choice numeracy test
- a short writing test based on a choice between a visual or written prompt

#### 2017 NAPLAN TESTS

If your child achieved Band 8s or above in one or more of the 2017 Year 9 NAPLAN tests they are recognised as having met the HSC minimum standard in that area/s and will not need to sit the corresponding online test/s.

## **TEST DATES**

Students will have two opportunities a year, from Year 10 until a few years after Year 12, to pass each online test.



The first of these opportunities at St Clair High School will be Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018:

Period 1: Numeracy Test

Period 2: Writing Test

Period 3: Reading Test.

Your child will be given specific details prior to the day of the

location of the tests.

## WHAT TO EXPECT?

To help your child understand what to expect in the online tests, they are encouraged to visit educationstandards.nesa.nsw.edu.au/HSCminimumstandard to:



try demonstration questions to get a feel for the test format



view sample test questions and answers online

Your child's school may also organise short practice tests.

# STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Some students with disabilities will be eligible for extra provisions for the minimum standard online tests, or an exemption from the HSC minimum standard requirement.

Students are encouraged to talk to their teachers to determine whether they are eligible for provisions. A Disability Provisions, Exemptions and Appeals policy, which contains further information, is available on the NESA website.

# **MORE INFORMATION**

Contact your child's school principal for more detailed information about the HSC minimum standard or visit the NESA website:

educationstandards.nesa.nsw.edu.au/HSCminimumstandard

## STAY UP TO DATE

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