

## NATIONAL LITERACY AND NUMERACY ASSESSMENTS MAY 2008

### UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD'S REPORT

In May 2008, for the first time, more than a million Australian school students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 undertook common tests across the country in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) and Numeracy.

Your child's report will show his or her results in comparison with all other students from the same year group in Australia who sat the tests, and will include:

- the national average;
- the range for the middle 60 per cent of students; and
- whether your child has achieved the national minimum standards.

Sample student reports for each year level are at <http://www.naplan.edu.au/reporting>

An important feature of the new national assessments is that your child's achievement in literacy and numeracy is now measured against common national assessment scales that continue from Year 3 through to Year 9. This means that as your child advances through school and has these assessments every second year, you will be able to monitor your child's progress in literacy and numeracy.

A graph showing the 10 band national scale and how results are reported for each year level follows this page. Results for each year tested start at a different point on the scale. For example, Year 7 starts at Band 4 and ends at Band 9. The advantage of the 10 band national scale is that you will be able to compare your child's results to those in previous years as he or she advances through school.

Another important feature of the new report is how the achievement of the national minimum standard is shown. The old 'benchmark' report showed achievement of the national minimum standard as being above or below a single score. The new report shows the national minimum standard as a full band on the scale. For example, the national minimum standard for Year 7 is Band 5. If your child's result is in this band, then he or she has typically demonstrated the basic elements of literacy and numeracy needed to participate in school in Year 7. If your child's result is in the bottom band for the year level, he or she has not achieved the basic skills of literacy and numeracy for that year, and needs focused intervention and additional support to help achieve the skills required to fully participate in schooling.

The table on the back page of the report provides a list of some of the skills tested in each of the bands. A student assessed in a particular band is likely to have correctly answered questions involving skills in that band and in each band below it.

This report is just one element of the information your child's school has on his or her learning and achievement in literacy and numeracy. Your child's teacher will be able to provide you with more information on how your child is progressing at school in literacy and numeracy.

If you would like further general information about the new national literacy and numeracy assessments, please visit [www.naplan.edu.au/about/national\\_assessment\\_program-literacy\\_and\\_numeracy.html](http://www.naplan.edu.au/about/national_assessment_program-literacy_and_numeracy.html)

**National Assessment Program — Literacy and Numeracy  
National Assessment Scale**

