



## **NATIONAL LITERACY AND NUMERACY ASSESSMENTS MAY 2009**

### **Understanding your child's report**

In May this year students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 undertook testing in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) and Numeracy. This is the second year that all Australian school students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 have participated in the same tests at the same time. Sample student reports for each year level can be viewed at [www.naplan.edu.au](http://www.naplan.edu.au).

Your child's report shows his or her results in comparison with the results of all other students in Australia who sat the tests, more than a million students in total. The report shows:

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

An important feature of the assessments is that your child's achievement is now reported against a common national assessment scale that continues from Year 3 right through to Year 9. This means that as your child advances through school and sits these assessments every second year, you will be able to see your child's progress in literacy and numeracy.

A graph showing the common national scale and how results are reported for each year level is shown on the following page. Each year level's group of six bands commences at a different band on the scale, covering Years 3 to 9. For example, the bottom level of the Year 7 report is labelled 'Band 4' and the top level 'Band 9'. This shows how the results for each year level relate to the full ten-band scale covering Years 3 to 9. The advantage of this is that **you are able to compare your child's results to those in previous years.**

Another important feature of the NAPLAN reports is the identification of **the national minimum standard for each year level.** The NAPLAN report shows the 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 only the basic elements of literacy and numeracy needed to participate in school in Year 7 and may still need help at school. If your child's result is in the bottom band for that year level, he or she has achieved at least some of the skills described in the relevant band as well as those skills described for the bands below, and will need focused intervention and additional support to achieve the skills required to progress satisfactorily through schooling.

The back page of the report has a table that provides a brief description of what students have typically demonstrated in the tests at each band. It is important to understand that if your child's result is at or above the national minimum standard, he or she has generally achieved the skills described in the relevant band as well as those skills described for the bands below.

This report is just one element of the information that 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 your child's progress in literacy and numeracy.

If you would like further general information about the national literacy and numeracy assessments please visit [www.naplan.edu.au](http://www.naplan.edu.au).



# NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

Literacy and Numeracy

National Assessment Program — Literacy and Numeracy  
National Assessment Scale

