



NEWSLETTER

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National Assessment Program

Welcome to the 2010 school year. Please take note of the dates below regarding the National Assessment Program (NAP) for 2010.

The NAP encompasses tests endorsed by the Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs (MCEECDYA) including the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) and three-yearly sample assessments in science literacy, civics and citizenship, and ICT literacy.

NAP Tests 2010

This year will see the introduction of a new assessment for students in year 4 as part of the NAP international sample assessments. For the first time all states and territories in Australia will participate in the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS). **TIMSS** (Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study) and **PIRLS** are large-scale assessments designed to inform educational policy and practice by providing an international perspective on teaching and learning in mathematics, science and reading.

More than 60 countries from all over the world plan to participate in TIMSS, while over 50 are participating in PIRLS. Most of those participating in PIRLS are also participating in TIMSS. In Australia, 480 schools and over 14,000 students at year 4 and year 8 will be involved.

Dates: The tests will be held from 28 October to 19 November 2010. Schools will be informed if they are to be involved once the scientific sample has been identified. The Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) is responsible for undertaking the data collection in Australian schools.

The official website can be found at: <http://www.acer.edu.au/timss/>.

NAP-Civics and Citizenship

This year students in years 6 and 10 will undertake the sample NAP-Civics and Citizenship assessment.

Dates: The test will be administered in October to a sample of approximately 13,000 students in approximately 650 schools, all sectors nationally. The dates for the test have yet to be determined.

School support materials are available for previous Civics and Citizenship assessments. The information and assessment materials in these documents have been designed to assist teachers to gauge their own students' proficiency. By replicating components of the year 6 and year 10 NAP—Civics and Citizenship in the classroom, teachers will be able to compare class and individual student results with the national proficiency levels and standards. It is anticipated that teachers will be able to reflect on this information to enhance teaching and monitoring of programs in our schools.

Further information can be found at:

http://www.mceecdya.edu.au/mceecdya/nap_civics_and_citizenship,12182.html

NAPLAN 2010

The Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) will manage the development and oversee the delivery of tests for NAPLAN from 2010.

Dates: The *full cohort testing* will occur during 11-14 May 2010. Schools must ensure all efforts are made to keep these dates free of other major activities.

An *equating test* (of sampled students) will be held close to the NAPLAN tests. This will require one day of testing at the sample schools and will be administered by external test invigilators. Further information will be provided at a later date.

Principals have been provided with the dates for the NAPLAN Information sessions to be held on 16-18 February 2010. All school contact officer should attend one of the sessions.

Support material can be accessed at the following websites:

- <http://www.acara.edu.au/assessment/assessment.html>
- www.naplan.edu.au
- http://www.acer.edu.au/documents/NAP_GrammarManualRevised.pdf

Enquiries

Further information on the National Assessment Program can be obtained from Dianne Grantham by telephone 6205 7374 or email dianne.grantham@act.gov.au or Ken Gordon on 6205 9498 or ken.gordon@act.gov.au



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