

1st November 2017

## **HSC minimum standard trial reading, writing and numeracy tests**

Students will demonstrate they meet the HSC minimum standard of literacy and numeracy by taking new online reading, writing and numeracy tests developed by NESA. The new HSC minimum standard tests will first be available to students in Year 10 in Term 1, 2018.

### **What is being trialled?**

In order to prepare for the 2018 tests, NESA is inviting all 2017 Year 9 and 10 students to participate in trial online tests in reading, writing and numeracy.

The trial test period is **13 – 24 November 2017**.

The tests will include:

- **Minimum Standard Reading Test** – 50 multiple choice questions (60 minutes)
- **Minimum Standard Numeracy Test**– 50 multiple choice questions (60 minutes)
- **Minimum Standard Writing Test** – one question based on a prompt. Students will be required to write a maximum of 500 words (45 minutes). (Please note, in the 2018 online tests, there will be 45 multiple choice questions for the reading and numeracy assessments, within a 45 minute test period).

**The tests are not the same as NAPLAN.** They have been specifically created to assess whether a student has reached a level of skill in literacy and numeracy that is essential for life after school.

A demonstration test is available at <https://hscliteracynumeracy.nesa.nsw.edu.au/>

### **Benefits to students from sitting the trial reading, writing and numeracy tests**

Participating in the trial will:

- allow Year 9 students to gain an early understanding of the test format;
- provide Year 10 students with experience of an online test environment;
- provide the opportunity for students and schools to contribute to test development; and/or
- allow NESA to determine that the questions are suitable.

Please note, as the 2017 tests are a trial, the results do not contribute towards the student's HSC minimum standard.

### **Benefits to schools**

- Results from the trial, available for schools in 2018, will provide valuable information on the current literacy and numeracy skills of participating students.
- Schools involved in the trial will have access to draft NESA-registered professional development modules related to the HSC minimum standard.

Kind regards,



Deb Dibley  
Principal

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I would like my son/daughter \_\_\_\_\_ to complete the:-

- Minimum Standard Reading Test
- Minimum Standard Numeracy Test
- Minimum Standard Writing Test

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of parent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please return the slip to Mrs. Brain or Mrs. Olds or phone or email to:

[fiona.brain@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:fiona.brain@det.nsw.edu.au)

[fiona.olds@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:fiona.olds@det.nsw.edu.au)