

Dear Parent/Carer,

As the nation-wide NAPLAN assessment period is due to begin in mid-March, we wanted to take this opportunity to provide some additional information to parents about how the information that schools, and teachers gain from NAPLAN can help us to support your child's learning needs. You might be interested to know that:



NAPLAN is a point in time test that assesses your child's literacy and numeracy skills in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.



In recent years, NAPLAN has changed to an *online adaptive assessment*. This means that, as a student progresses through the assessment, they begin with easier questions and then are given questions better suited to their abilities. Students are therefore given the appropriate level of challenge during the NAPLAN experience. Additionally, students have said that they prefer the online environment, and that they are more relaxed and confident in the online space, as compared to the old paper assessments.



While NAPLAN provides families and schools with an understanding of an individual student's skills and understandings at the time of the assessment, this useful information also helps your child's school and teachers to look at trends in student achievement over time.



Teachers regularly use this information, combined with other assessment information, to monitor how your child is building skills in literacy and numeracy over the seven years of learning from Year 3 to Year 9.



Schools and teachers are also able to identify skills and concepts that your child might need more help with. Teachers use this information, along with other assessments, to develop targeted learning plans to support your child at their point of need.



There is no need to prepare your child for NAPLAN. Teachers generally ensure that students are familiar with the type of literacy or numeracy questions that they might encounter in NAPLAN. Outside the assessment period, teachers work with students to unpack vocabulary in both Literacy and Numeracy example questions, to ensure that students can identify and understand key language, to better answer the questions.

If you would like further information about NAPLAN at Templestowe College, please contact Adam Cribbes (Assistant Principal) at ACRI@tc.vic.edu.au