

2017

National Assessment Program

Information and Communication Technology Literacy

Information for parents and carers

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) is responsible for the National Assessment Program, including the development of sample tests. This year, a sample of Year 6 and Year 10 students from across Australia will take part in an online national sample assessment in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) literacy.



What is the NAP—ICT Literacy sample assessment?

The NAP—ICT Literacy sample assessment is a test for Year 6 and Year 10 students in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) literacy.

The purpose of the test is to inform schools, education ministers and the community about the levels of achievement for ICT literacy among Year 6 and Year 10 students across Australia. All participating schools will receive reports summarising their students' results.

As technologies change, it is increasingly important that ICT skills are adaptive and transferable. These ICT skills in conjunction with other essential skills, such as literacy, numeracy and problem solving, can assist and transform student learning. This assessment looks at ICT literacy as an essential skill across all learning areas and emphasises the value of students becoming ICT-literate citizens.

Who will be assessed and when?

Around 12,000 Year 6 and Year 10 students from approximately 640 government, Catholic and independent schools in metropolitan, rural and remote locations will participate in the sample assessment. Students will be selected by drawing a random sample of schools in each state and territory across Australia and then a sample of students within each of these schools will be selected to complete the assessment.

The assessments will be held in Term 4 between October and November 2017 at the students' school and tests are expected to take approximately two hours to complete. In most schools, the assessment will be conducted by a test administrator from outside the school, who will be trained to administer the assessments in a nationally consistent manner. In a small number of very remote schools, alternative arrangements may be made for how the assessment will be administered.

What does participation mean for your child?

If your child is randomly selected to take part, he or she will participate in a world-class assessment designed by education experts in ICT literacy.

The assessment is designed to test your child's level of knowledge, understanding and skills in using ICT. Students are not expected to study for this assessment, and last minute preparation is unnecessary.

The assessment is designed to 'bring out the best' in students and to encourage full participation by making the test an engaging experience.

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Why is this assessment being done?

The main purpose of the national Year 6 and Year 10 ICT Literacy assessment is to monitor and report on the overall progress being made towards achieving high standards of ICT literacy nationally.

Students' achievements will be described in a national public report to be published in 2018. No individual schools or students will be identified in the public report.

Additionally, schools taking part in the assessment benefit in several ways:

- ▶ All schools taking part in the sample assessment will receive reports summarising their students' results.
- ▶ School summary reports will show links to the Australian Curriculum: Digital Technologies.
- ▶ Teachers from participating classes will be able to reflect on this information to enhance teaching and learning programs in Australian schools.
- ▶ Students will have the opportunity to engage in a national online assessment.
- ▶ Sampled schools will become familiar with the technical capabilities required to engage in online assessments.

What does the assessment comprise?

Activity	Description
Introductory tutorial (10 minutes)	Students complete the tutorial to familiarise themselves with the type of items and tasks they can expect.
Part A: 4 assessment modules (20 minutes for each module)	All students complete a series of items and tasks built around typical computing skills and software.
Part B: student questionnaire (10 minutes)	Students will complete a survey regarding their access to, familiarity with, and interest in using computers.

There will be a minimum five-minute break between part A and part B. Should this break coincide with the school's morning tea or lunch time, students will be given that usual break and the student questionnaire will be completed on return to class.

Further information

If you have any questions about the ICT Literacy assessment, please talk to your child's teacher or school principal, or visit www.nap.edu.au