



2022 National Assessment Program

Information and Communication Technology Literacy

Information for schools

In 2022, as part of the National Assessment Program (NAP), a sample of Year 6 and Year 10 students from across Australia will take part in an online assessment in Information and Communication Technology Literacy (ICTL).

What are NAP sample assessments?

The NAP sample assessments monitor student achievement in science literacy, civics and citizenship, and information and communication technology through a 3-year cycle of tests. By doing so, they contribute to the measurement of student progress towards the goals outlined in the Alice Springs (Mparntwe) Education Declaration 2019.

What is the NAP–ICTL sample assessment?

The NAP–ICTL sample assessment is a test for Year 6 and Year 10 students in information and communication technology literacy. It has been held every 3 years since 2005. In 2020, the assessment was postponed to 2022 due to the COVID pandemic. During this time, it was revised to better reflect the Australian Curriculum strands of ICT Capability and Digital Technologies.

For the purposes of the NAP, ICT literacy is defined as the ability to:

- use ICT appropriately and safely to access, manage and evaluate information
- develop new understandings

- apply computational, design and systems thinking to create solutions
- communicate and collaborate with others
- engage productively with emerging and future technologies.

ICT literacy is considered to be an essential skill across all learning areas.

How are schools and students selected to participate?

Approximately 650 schools have been selected to participate in the NAP–ICTL assessment program in 2022.

Schools are selected according to a rigorous sampling process, undertaken in consultation with state and territory authorities. This ensures that government, Catholic and independent schools from metropolitan, rural and remote locations are appropriately represented.

Twenty students from Year 6 or Year 10 are then selected at random from each sampled school. In schools with fewer than 20 students in the target year level, all students in that year level are selected.

How is the assessment administered?

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) is responsible for the National Assessment Program, including the development of the NAP Sample tests.

ACARA contracts the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) to support schools in administering the assessment.

ACER communicates with all participating schools to provide them with the information and guidance necessary to prepare for and conduct the online tests.

This year, the NAP–ICTL tests will be administered to students by a teacher from their school.

The assessment will be delivered to sampled schools online, between October and November 2022 (Term 4). Students will sit the tests using an internet-connected device. Prior to the assessment, schools will be asked to determine the suitability of their devices by completing a device check.

The test sessions, including preparation time and breaks, are expected to run for 2 hours

What does the assessment look like?

The NAP–ICTL assessment seeks to replicate a student’s real-world experience of information and communication technology. Students are asked to complete a range of tasks, of varying levels of difficulty, using purpose-built software. The tests have been designed to engage students and encourage full participation. Test items are presented in various formats, including:

- multiple choice
- drag and drop
- software commands (for instance, saving a file to a location)
- short constructed responses
- larger, multi-component tasks (the construction of artefacts).

How long does the assessment take?

Activity	Description
Introductory tutorial (about 10 minutes)	Students complete the tutorial to familiarise themselves with the types of items and tasks they will face in the test.
The test: 4 assessment modules (20 minutes per module)	Students complete four modules, each containing a series of items and tasks built around typical computing skills and software.
Student questionnaire (about 10 minutes)	Students complete a questionnaire regarding their access to, familiarity with and interest in using digital tools.

There will be a 5-minute break between each module, and between the last module and the questionnaire. Should the break between the modules and the questionnaire coincide with the school’s morning tea or lunch time, students should be given their morning tea or lunch break as usual and should complete the student questionnaire upon their return to class.

What are the outcomes of the assessment?

National reporting

The ICTL assessment is designed to provide nationally comparable state and territory data and to identify overall trends.

ACARA publishes a national report on student achievement. This will be released in 2023 and will document achievement in relation to defined proficiency levels, but will not identify individual schools or students. The report will include:

- analysis of the performance of different groups of students – for example, differences by gender, state/territory, and metropolitan/regional schools. The results of government and non-government schools will not be compared.
- comparison of ICT literacy across Year 6 and Year 10 students (several tasks are common to the assessments completed by both year levels)
- changes or trends from 2005 through to 2022.

Reports to schools

Schools will receive information on their students' performance in the tests before the end of the 2022 school year. Schools taking part in the assessment will benefit as follows:

- School summary reports will show links to the Australian Curriculum: ICT Capability and Digital Technologies.
- Teachers from participating classes will be able to reflect on this information to enhance teaching and learning programs.
- Sampled schools and their students will become more familiar with the requirements of online assessments.

Selected materials (which include sample questions) from previous cycles of the NAP–ICTL assessment are available on the National Assessment Program website at www.nap.edu.au

Further information

Schools selected for inclusion in the NAP–ICTL sample assessment will be contacted and informed of the process by July/August 2022.

Support for participating schools is available at ictl@acer.org or on **1800 599 426**.

General information about the National Assessment Program and the ICTL assessment can be found at www.nap.edu.au or by contacting ACARA at info@acara.edu.au.