

NAPLAN 2020 – FAQs for parents

1. Is this year's test delayed to next year? Or cancelled? That is, will the current Year 5 students sit NAPLAN 2021 in Year 6?

Education ministers made the decision to cancel NAPLAN in 2020 due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. This means the current Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will not undertake the assessment this year. Those in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in 2021 will sit the NAPLAN assessments. Any change to this and to the year levels that participate in the annual NAPLAN assessments would need to be agreed by all education ministers.

2. I would still like my child to take NAPLAN at home this year – is that possible?

NAPLAN is cancelled for 2020 and as such, the assessments will not be running in any form, in schools or at home. The decision was taken to assist school leaders, teachers and support staff to focus on the wellbeing of students and continuity of education. However, previous years' test papers are available on the [ACARA website](#), and there is the NAPLAN [Online public demonstration site](#) for parents and children if they wish to use them as an activity while at home.

3. Why can't parents oversee the sitting of the NAPLAN Online test at home?

There are comprehensive NAPLAN test administration and security procedures that need to be followed for NAPLAN assessments, and the tests are overseen by teachers to ensure results are credible. It is not practical to administer a secure test in a home environment.

Previous years' test papers are available on the [ACARA website](#), and there is the NAPLAN [Online public demonstration site](#) for parents and children if they wish to use them as an activity while at home.

4. Can a school still do the NAPLAN test if they wish?

NAPLAN is cancelled for 2020 and the assessments will not be done in any schools this year. The decision was taken to assist school leaders, teachers and support staff to focus on the wellbeing of students and continuity of education.

5. What will happen in Western Australia, where Year 9 NAPLAN results qualify students for the literacy and numeracy requirements in the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE)?

The use of NAPLAN data for other purposes, such as linking it to the WACE requirements, is subject to the decisions of local education authorities.



6. NAPLAN for Year 5 is often used by selective high schools as one of the ways of determining which students are offered a spot. Will there be another test offered to Year 5 students this year?

We are aware that some schools may ask for NAPLAN reports in addition to school reports as part of their admissions process. NAPLAN assessments are not designed to be a school admission test.

7. What will my child's NAPLAN records show for this year as they did not sit the NAPLAN test due to COVID-19? How do I know that this will not impact my child in the future?

No child will have a NAPLAN result for 2020. NAPLAN results can assist teachers by providing additional information to support their professional judgement about students' levels of literacy and numeracy attainment and progress. NAPLAN tests are only one aspect of each school's assessment and reporting process, they do not replace the extensive ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student's performance. Your child's teacher will have the best insight into your child's educational progress.