2025 National Assessment Program
Information and Communication Technology Literacy – Main study

Information for schools

In 2025, as part of the National Assessment Program, a sample of Year 6 and Year 10 students from across Australia will take part in an online sample assessment in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) literacy.

What is the NAP–ICT Literacy assessment?

The National Assessment Program (NAP) is designed to measure student progress towards the goals outlined in Alice Spring (Mparntwe) Education Declaration 2019. NAP sample assessments test students' skills and understanding in science literacy, civics and citizenship, and ICT literacy. Only selected classes of students in Years 6 and 10 participate in these assessments, which are held on a rolling 3-yearly cycle.

The NAP–ICT Literacy (NAP–ICTL) assessment measures students' knowledge and understanding related to ICT and digital literacy. 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.

NAP–ICTL assessments have been held every 3 years since 2005. Before each main study assessment is conducted, a field trial is held to evaluate potential modules for the main assessment.

Why is the NAP–ICTL assessment undertaken?

The purpose of the assessment is:

- to inform schools, education ministers and the community about levels of achievement in ICT education among Year 6 and Year 10 students across Australia
- to support improvement in teaching and learning programs.

The study also assesses student achievement against recognised goals and standards, and helps drive improvements in student outcomes.

How is the NAP–ICTL main study run?

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) develops the sample tests in consultation with curriculum specialists, education authorities, testing authorities and practising teachers in each state and territory. The NAP–ICTL main study is administered by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) on behalf of ACARA. The tests are delivered to students over an online platform.

The main study will be held between **Monday 5 May and Friday 23 May 2025.**

An assessment day is scheduled for each school. All components are administered on the same day with a short break between the modules to allow the students to stretch and refocus. The actual assessment time is 80 minutes, but schools should allow approximately 2 hours for the entire assessment process.

How are schools and students selected to participate in the main study?

A random sample of schools in each state and territory across Australia is selected and a sample of 20 students within each of these schools take part. Around 12,800 Year 6 and Year 10 students from approximately 640 government, Catholic and independent schools in metropolitan, rural and remote locations participate in the NAP–ICTL main study. ACARA's contractor, ACER, will ask participating schools to supply class lists for the relevant school year (Year 6 or Year 10).

What does participation mean for your students?

If your students are selected for the assessment sample, they will be participating in a world-class online assessment designed by education experts in ICT literacy. Taking part will provide your students with an excellent learning opportunity as the tests are designed in an engaging way to bring out the best in students.

Your students are not expected to study for this assessment and no preparation is necessary. There are separate tests for Year 6 and Year 10 students.

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How are the tests constructed?

The NAP−ICTL assessment consists of tasks that enable students to show achievement at many levels. Students are presented with a range of tasks to complete using purpose-built software applications. The tasks have been designed to reflect students' typical real-world use of ICT. Students have an opportunity to complete practice questions before progressing to the online assessment.

The NAP−ICT Literacy assessment consists of an introductory tutorial (10 minutes), 4 assessment modules (20 minutes each) and a student questionnaire (15 minutes).

Activity	Description
Practice questions (10 minutes)	Students complete the tutorial to familiarise themselves with the types of items and tasks they can expect.
Part A: 4 assessment modules (20 minutes per module)	All students complete a series of items and tasks built around using digital tools, which provide the opportunity to demonstrate typical computing skills and software use.
Part B: Student questionnaire (15 minutes)	Students will complete a questionnaire regarding their access to, familiarity with and interest in using digital tools.

How is the main study assessment conducted?

During Term 2, ACER contacts participating schools to provide training material and assist in the preparations schools must make to ensure they are ready to administer the test.

Prior to the assessment, schools determine the suitability of their computers/devices for the test by completing the required technical device checks.

On test day, the test session is conducted by a nominated staff member from the school. The guideline materials ACER provides to schools ensure that the assessment is administered in a nationally consistent manner.

What are the outcomes?

The NAP−ICTL main study aims to provide a general snapshot of ICT literacy. It is not about testing individual students or their ability, and students' results are not published.

The NAP−ICTL 2025 assessment provides data comparable at national, state and territory levels, and identifies overall trends.

- Schools will receive a report summarising their students' performance in the assessments.
- A national public report on the results of the assessment will be released in 2027 and will show achievement in relation to the defined national proficiency levels.
- No individual schools' results will be published, and no individual student reports will be available.

The public report will include:

- analysis of the performance of different groups of students; for example, differences across genders, states/territories and metropolitan/regional schools
- comparison of ICT literacy across cohorts of Year 6 and Year 10 students
- comparison of achievement levels over time.

Demonstration tests (which include sample questions) from previous cycles of the NAP−ICTL assessment are available on the National Assessment Program website at nap.edu.au/nap-sample-assessments/the-tests

Further information

Support for participating schools is available from the NAP−ICTL Helpdesk on 1800 155 108 or email: ictl@acer.org

General information about the National Assessment Program and the NAP−ICTL assessment can be found on nap.edu.au/nap-sample-assessments/ict-literacy

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