

## NAP – Science Literacy 2026 (NAP–SL 2026) Main study student privacy notice

### Notice of collection under Australian Privacy Principle 5 (*Privacy Act 1988 Cth*)

This notice is to advise you that personal information about your child and you (parents/guardians) will be collected for the National Assessment Program – Science Literacy (**NAP–SL**) main study assessment.

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (**ACARA**) handles all personal information in accordance with the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth). For a summary of data fields that ACARA collects, please see ACARA's [Privacy Policy](#) at [www.acara.edu.au/contact-us/privacy](http://www.acara.edu.au/contact-us/privacy).

If you do not want your child to participate in the NAP–SL 2026 main study, you should notify your child's school. For further information, please refer to [www.nap.edu.au/nap-sample-assessments/for-parents-carers](http://www.nap.edu.au/nap-sample-assessments/for-parents-carers).

#### What is the NAP–SL main study assessment?

ACARA develops the NAP–SL tests, which are conducted in a stratified sample of schools across Australia for selected students in Years 6 and 10. The NAP–SL 2026 main study test will be conducted online.

The online assessment will test your child's level of science literacy knowledge, understanding and skills.

Your child is not expected to study for this assessment and no preparation is necessary. There are separate tests for Year 6 and Year 10 students. For more information about the NAP–SL test please visit [www.nap.edu.au/nap-sample-assessments/science-literacy](http://www.nap.edu.au/nap-sample-assessments/science-literacy).

#### Collection and use

Section 40(1) of the *Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority Act 2008* (Cth) authorises ACARA to collect personal information for specific purposes including conducting research relating to the national school curriculum, producing national reports and assisting government to formulate education policies.

ACARA, through its contractors, will collect the following categories of information for each student in the sampled school cohort (Year 6 or Year 10), noting that for some categories there will be multiple data fields:

- student name
- student identifier
- student attendance
- gender
- information on exemptions and withdrawals (where relevant)
- year level.

ACARA also holds information about each sampled school including, and not limited to:

- school name
- school address
- school suburb
- state/territory
- school sector.

These data fields are publicly available from the Australian Schools List website managed by ACARA (<https://asl.acara.edu.au/>) and from the websites of each school.

Only twenty students (20) are selected from the school cohort (either Year 6 or Year 10) in each sampled school. If your child is selected, ACARA will also collect student background data. ACARA collects student background data centrally through some state or territory departments of education or state statutory authorities. For those jurisdictions that do not hold data centrally for all schools, ACARA also collects student background data from Catholic school authorities and directly from individual schools where no central provision of student background data is available. In this case, schools provide this data directly to ACARA.

For each selected student, ACARA will collect the following categories of student background data:

- date of birth
- gender
- whether your child identifies as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person
- parent school education (for each parent/guardian)
- parent non-school education (for each parent/guardian)
- parent occupation group (for each parent/guardian)
- student home language and parent home language (for each parent/guardian).

ACARA will also collect other information about your child after your child completes the online main study, including performance information derived from student responses to test questions (for example, multiple choice and free text questions).

Your child's performance may not be included in the NAP–SL 2026 national report if all or some of the personal information is not collected.

## Disclosure

ACARA **only** discloses personal information where consistent with our legal obligations to do so, which includes obligations in any agreement that regulates the ways in which personal information can be used and disclosed by ACARA or its contractors. In circumstances where ACARA has serious and reasonable concerns for the health, safety or wellbeing of a child based on their responses to the free text questions, ACARA may provide a copy of a child's responses to the relevant school in the interests of ensuring the child's welfare.

ACARA will not disclose personal information to third parties overseas.

## Access and correction

ACARA is **not** able to match information it receives or collects with individual students. If you wish to access or correct your child's personal information or NAP–SL data, contact your child's school in the first instance.

## Complaints and enquiries

If you wish to make a complaint or enquiry, or would like further information about ACARA's privacy practices, see ACARA's [Privacy Policy](http://www.acara.edu.au/contact-us/privacy) ([www.acara.edu.au/contact-us/privacy](http://www.acara.edu.au/contact-us/privacy)).

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