

1 March 2017



Dear Parents/Carers

Re: NAPLAN Practice Testing

This letter is to inform parents of students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 of the College's NAPLAN preparation programs for 2017.

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an everyday part of the College calendar since 2008.

NAPLAN tests the types of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life such as reading, writing, spelling and numeracy. The assessments are undertaken nationwide, every year, in the second full week of May.

NAPLAN is made up of tests in four areas (or 'domains'):

- Reading
- Writing
- Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation)
- Numeracy

A detailed parent guide to NAPLAN Testing is available at:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support/preparing-for-naplan.html>

College staff are keenly aware of the need to support our students and prepare them for this testing regime. Both English and Mathematics classes have already commenced a review of past test questions, to assist students with developing effective strategies to understand and address the testing procedures and sample question formats. This deliberate analysis of testing materials is a consistent approach, which is utilised in schools across Australia to familiarise students with NAPLAN assessment tools.

In addition to the regular treatment of test materials, the College will hold practice tests under exam conditions, in Week 10 of Term 1 for Secondary Students, and in Weeks 9 and 10 of Term 1 for Primary students.

Sessions have been scheduled to cause minimum interference to regular timetabled classes in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. On these days, Middle School students will be required to have access to the approved calculator (Casio FX82).

Support for students with learning difficulties will be provided in accordance with testing requirements.

Should you have any questions or concerns about the planned NAPLAN testing preparations, please feel free to contact the College Office.

Yours sincerely

Mark Hodges
Principal