National Assessment Program

Under the *Australian Education Act 2013* (Cth.), schools are required to participate in the National Assessment Program.

The National Assessment Program (NAP) is run at the direction of the Standing Council on School Education and Early Childhood (SCSEEC). It includes:

- the National Assessment Program — Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)
- three-yearly NAP Sample Assessments in Science Literacy, Civics and Citizenship, and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Literacy
- international sample assessments.

The NAPLAN is an annual assessment for students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9. The assessments are undertaken nationwide, every year, in the second full week in May.

The NAP Sample Assessments test students' skills and understanding in Science Literacy, Civics and Citizenship and ICT Literacy. Only selected groups of students in Year 6 and Year 10 participate in these sample assessments (Year 6 only for Science Literacy), which are held on a rolling, three-yearly basis.

There are also NAP Sample Assessments conducted by international organisations on behalf of SCSEEC. These include the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) and the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS).

Selected Participation in Future Assessments: Schools will be informed individually

Assessment	Frequency	Who
NAP Civics and Citizenship	Once every three years beginning in 2016	Selected students in Year 6 and Year 10
NAP ICT Literacy	Once every three years beginning in 2014	Selected students in Year 6 and Year 10
PISA reading, mathematical and scientific literacy and collaborative problem solving	Once every three years beginning in 2015	Selected students aged 15
TIMSS Mathematics and Science	Once every four years beginning in 2015	Selected students in Year 4 and Year 8

For further information, visit the National Assessment Program website and/or the NAPLAN page on the VCAA website.