

# NAPLAN 2026 Preparation

Presentation

17 February 2026

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# Acknowledgment of Country

## Kaya

The School Curriculum and Standards Authority (the Authority) acknowledges that our offices are on Whadjuk Noongar boodjar and that we deliver our services on the country of many traditional custodians and language groups throughout Western Australia.

The Authority acknowledges the traditional custodians throughout Western Australia and their continuing connection to land, waters and community.

We offer our respect to Elders past and present.

## Platform Readiness Testing 2025

# Thank you!

- Platform Readiness Testing (PRT) testing is an opportunity for schools to assist with testing the whole NAPLAN platform including any updates/changes prior to NAPLAN in the following year.
- It also provides schools with the chance to test the devices they intend to use for NAPLAN.

## Test Dates for NAPLAN 2026

- Commences Week 6 of Term 1.
- Wednesday, 11 March – Monday, 23 March.
- Nine-day testing period
  - Week 6 – Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
  - Week 7 – Monday to Friday
  - Week 8 – Monday.
- Writing must be scheduled on Day 1 – Wednesday, 11 March.

NAPLAN	2026	11–23 March See <a href="#">Test window</a> See <a href="#">Ramadan and NAPLAN</a>
	2027	10–22 March
	2028	15–27 March
	2029	14–26 March

<https://nap.edu.au>

# Pre-testing Activities

## 2026 Activity

Principal details in SIRS were required by **12 February**. If this was not completed, **update SIRS as a matter of urgency**, and **email** [naplan@scsa.wa.edu.au](mailto:naplan@scsa.wa.edu.au) with the correct information. Incorrect principal details will delay the platform registration process.

Student Registration and Demographic (SRGDG) file upload of students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 was required to be completed by **12 February**.

Complete the Authority's *NAPLAN training 2026 – Principal* module and provide the incident response contact mobile phone number by **27 February**.

Complete the platform registration on **23 February**, noting that when registering, you are agreeing to ACARA's 'Statement of Compliance'. Once registered, invite your NAPLAN coordinators and school technical support officers as soon as possible.

Ensure all staff involved in NAPLAN 2026 have been provided with the 'Code of conduct' and have completed the relevant Authority NAPLAN training modules between **29 January and 10 March**.

Principal or NAPLAN coordinators are to ensure disability adjustments, exemptions, withdrawals and class groups have been added to the platform between **2 March and 10 March**.

## School Readiness

- All schools are required, under the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority's (ACARA) *2026 NAPLAN national protocols for test administration* (the Protocols), to:
  - develop a school test schedule according to the prescribed test order, ensuring testing can be completed within the test window
  - communicate the test schedule to staff and the school community – including if and when catch-up testing will be held
  - distribute the *NAPLAN 2026 Information for parents and carers brochure*. Copies of the brochure were sent with the pre-test materials ('welcome pack')
  - prepare classrooms by removing/covering materials displayed that may help students respond to the tests.

## School Readiness

- All schools are required, under the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority's (ACARA) *2026 NAPLAN national protocols for test administration* (the Protocols), to:
  - ensure that parents/carers and the student are informed about, and have agreed to, the nature of any adjustment(s) the student will receive
  - adopt appropriate test preparation strategies that familiarise students with the process and question formats, but do not excessively rehearse students such that results reflect prepared work rather than students' own abilities.

## Social Media Compliance and Promotional Resources

- Schools must ensure that videos or photographs are not taken during test sessions, except as necessary for troubleshooting technical issues.
- Schools can utilise the Resources page on the NAP website for infographics, posters and advice for social media accounts and newsletters at [nap.edu.au/resources](https://www.nap.edu.au/resources).

## Ramadan and NAPLAN

- In 2026, the NAPLAN testing window coincides with the Islamic holy month of Ramadan.
- Schools are encouraged to:
  - schedule NAPLAN tests first thing in the morning to ensure fasting students' energy levels are at their highest
  - schedule tests early in the test window to avoid coinciding with Eid al-Fitr celebrations on 20 March.
- Schools should encourage parents and carers to discuss any concerns regarding NAPLAN and Ramadan with the school to identify what support measures are available, including with scheduling tests.
- Further information is available on the NAP website at [nap.edu.au/naplan/for-schools/ramadan-and-naplan](https://nap.edu.au/naplan/for-schools/ramadan-and-naplan).

## School Technical Readiness

- An online technical readiness training module was released on 21 October 2025.
- Principals with new school technical support officers should ask them to complete this now.
- Before NAPLAN 2026 commences, it is important to check:
  - your local connectivity – bandwidth and wireless access points are sufficient
  - all devices to be used are compliant with the minimum specifications
  - the devices to be used have the latest version of the NAP Locked Down Browser (LDB)
  - the LDB works in the local network
  - students have access to the NAPLAN testing platform.
- It is recommended the *NAPLAN Training and Practice* environment is used to test your local network and devices. This is available now.

## NAP Locked Down Browsers

- The latest version of the applicable NAP Locked Down Browser (LDB) must be installed on each device being used to access the NAPLAN 2026 tests.
- Schools can access the LDBs and user guides at [www.assessform.edu.au/naplan-online/locked-down-browser](http://www.assessform.edu.au/naplan-online/locked-down-browser).
- ACARA has advised that the Windows, MacOS and Chromebook Progressive Web App (PWA) LDBs were updated on 12 January 2026.
- The NAP 2026 Chromebook LDB has been upgraded to a new PWA technology to operate effectively and securely on Google Chromebook devices.

## Student Readiness

- Schools must ensure all students are familiar with the device they will be using for NAPLAN, the functionality of the online platform and the range of interactive item types in each domain.
- The recommended method of familiarisation is to perform a practice test using the LDB within the *NAPLAN Training and Practice* environment at [assessform.edu.au](https://assessform.edu.au).
- Students requiring further familiarisation with item types outside of the school environment can be directed to the public demonstration site at [nap.edu.au/naplan/public-demonstration-site](https://nap.edu.au/naplan/public-demonstration-site).

# NAPLAN Training and Practice Environment

In preparation for NAPLAN, utilise the NAPLAN Training and Practice environment

- The *NAPLAN Training and Practice* environment is available and information on accessing the environment was provided in *NAPLAN 2026 Update 1*.

The *NAPLAN Training and Practice* environment has some limitations:

- it is not a secure environment
  - do not invite actual NAPLAN coordinators
  - do not add actual student information
- it uses ‘mock students’
- it uses the green generic secure grid card provided via an Excel spreadsheet with *Update 1*
- if adding disability adjustment codes – they need to be allocated to a ‘mock student’
- if any preparation work is done in this environment, it will not be transferred into the actual test platform.

# NAPLAN Training and Practice Environment

## Advantages:

- ✓ requires the latest LDB (ensures the correct one is being used)
- ✓ tests loading functionality of the LDB (would identify issues e.g. black screen)
- ✓ load-tests local network capacity if expected peak load is used
- ✓ requires a Test Administrator Pack to be produced
- ✓ provides Test Administrator (TA) with full administration experience
- ✓ provides students with an opportunity to enter a session and 'mock student' code
- ✓ provides students with an opportunity for a practice test experience through an 'omnibus' test and/or choice of two writing tests.

# Demonstration Tests

Using the NAPLAN Demonstration tests through the LDB as an alternative to the Training and Practice environment

## Advantages:

- ✓ still tests loading functionality of LDB (may identify technical issues)
- ✓ still load-tests local network capacity if expected peak load is used
- ✓ *almost* provides students with full test experience (login codes automatically pre-filled)
- ✓ a little less work for schools
- ✓ students can do this at any time, including at home.

## Disadvantages:

- ✗ does not require TA pack to be produced
- ✗ does not provide TA with full Test Administration experience
- ✗ no capacity for NAPLAN coordinators/principals to see what has been completed.

# Changes to NAPLAN Administration

## Year 3 writing test books:

- Do not use books printed with another student's details.
- NAPLAN coordinator to complete the participation bubbles on the front cover.
- Return all used and unused test books.

NAPLAN

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WRITING

YEAR

3

2026

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**TEACHER: complete these details (if blank)**

*IMPORTANT: Personalised test books must not be used for a different student*

First name  Last name

School code  Date of birth    Class  WASN

School name  ASL code

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**NAPLAN Coordinators to complete these sections as required**

Fill one bubble if the student did not complete this test  
Do not mark students as absent until all catch-up sessions are complete

<input type="radio"/> Absent	<input type="radio"/> Refused / Non-attempt	OFFICE USE ONLY
<input type="radio"/> Withdrawn	<input type="radio"/> TAA Sanctioned Abandonment	
<input type="radio"/> Exempt	<input type="radio"/> No Longer Enrolled	

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Complete if student details incorrect  Details changed  Correct WASN (if required)

Complete if hosting this student  Visiting student

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**Details to be completed by the STUDENT**

Please print your name in the boxes below

First name

Last name

---


40min

SESSION 1  
Time available for students to complete test: 40 minutes

Use 2B or HB pencil only

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# Changes to NAPLAN Administration

## 'Media not loading'

ACARA has implemented a 'Reload media' button to assist students and alert test administrators of 'Media not loading' technical disruptions.

- If a student encounters an issue where a media file fails to load during their test, a 'Reload media' button will display. The student can select this button to reload the media file.



- The test administrator will be shown a disruption icon in the Actions column on the Test Administration dashboard for the student who has experienced an active or inactive disruption.

# Changes to NAPLAN Administration

## Changes to the alternative format (paper) test window

- Schools delivering an Authority-approved alternative curriculum may be permitted to administer the alternative format (paper) tests in 2026.
- From 2026, the alternative format (paper) testing window is extended to 5 days to support schools to schedule one test per day and provide catch-up sessions for students who are absent on scheduled test days.
- Wednesday, 11 March – Monday, 16 March with Tuesday, 17 March used for catch-up sessions for non-writing domains only.
- The paper test order is now the same as the online test order:  
Writing → Reading → Conventions of language → Numeracy

## Post-testing Activities

### 2026 Activity

It is important to move your school from 'Delivering' to 'Results' phase in the NAPLAN platform as soon as possible at the completion of testing in your school. This task should be completed no later than **26 March**.

Lodge writing test materials via Australia Post to Fujifilm DMS by **COB 16 March**. Return alternative format 'special print' materials by **23 March**.

Confirm your school contacts in SIRS are correct to ensure the student results are sent to the correct staff member, by **6 June**.

Securely dispose of all test materials that are not required to be returned at the end of the test security period after **26 March**.

Download and securely store student and school results for future reference when these are available.

# Change to Return of Year 3 Writing Test Materials

## 2026 Activity

The Authority and Fujifilm DMS are using Australia Post for test material delivery and returns.

You should have received an activation email to the Fujifilm NAPLAN WA Website on **16 February**. The link is only active for 48 hours.

Schools will be supplied with a registered post return label for the test materials package. Schools should retain the box for the return of all test materials.

Schools must return all used and unused Year 3 writing test materials. Unused writing test books are to be placed in the 'UNUSED WRITING TEST BOOKS' envelope.

NAPLAN coordinators are to complete the participation 'bubbles' on the front cover of test books and these must match the participation status of the student on the platform.

You or a nominated delegate need to lodge the package via Australia Post and then record the date lodged on the Fujifilm NAPLAN WA Website.

# NAPLAN Reporting 2026

The ACARA proposed dates for the release of NAPLAN results:

- Thursday, 23 April – preliminary Student and School Summary Report (SSSR) excluding writing results
- Friday, 12 June – final SSSR release including all test domains
- Monday, 20 July – Individual Student Reports (ISRs) for parents.

## NAPLAN 2026

- NAPLAN test items are reviewed to ensure they align with the Western Australian Curriculum.
- More information about test content and the NAPLAN Assessment Framework is available at [nap.edu.au/naplan/whats-in-the-tests](https://nap.edu.au/naplan/whats-in-the-tests).
- The *2026 NAPLAN Student and School Summary Report (SSSR)* includes AC V9.0 curriculum strand names, content codes and hyperlinks (e.g. AC9M5ST02).
- The guide to interpreting the SSSR will be available from early April 2026 and will reflect these changes.



School Curriculum  
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Authority

# NAPLAN helpdesk

Phone: 9442 9442

Email: [naplan@scsa.wa.edu.au](mailto:naplan@scsa.wa.edu.au)

## Links



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[k10outline.scsa.wa.edu.au/home/assessment/testing/naplan](http://k10outline.scsa.wa.edu.au/home/assessment/testing/naplan)



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