

Memo

Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority

6 October 2026

Prep–Year 10

Number: 049/26

Preparing for NAPLAN 2027

Purpose

To advise schools to begin preparations for the 2027 National Assessment Program — Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests, in Term 4 2026.

Background

All eligible students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to participate in NAPLAN 2027. Testing will take place during a nine-day window from 10 to 22 March 2027.

Year 3 writing test books are printed with student and school details. Year 2 2026 enrolment data must be submitted and checked in Term 4 2026, so the books can be printed in the end-of-year school holiday period, ready for the start of the 2027 school year.

Information

NAPLAN AARA for students with disability

In Term 4 2026, schools must submit applications for alternative format test materials through the NAPLAN AARA application (app) in the QCAA Portal. Find information about NAPLAN access arrangements and reasonable adjustments (AARA) including due dates, in [Memo 035/26](#).

Year 2 2026 enrolment data

Year 2 2026 enrolment data must be submitted in the NAPLAN Administration application (app) in the [QCAA Portal](#) by schools or sector representatives, and checked to ensure details are correct for Year 3 writing test books. For Portal information, see [QCAA Portal for NAPLAN](#).

The table below shows who is responsible for these activities in each sector.

School sector	Who submits data	Who checks data
- State schools - Diocesan Catholic schools	Sector authority From 26 October 2026 (To avoid duplication requiring school attention, schools must not submit.)	School From 9 November by 20 November 2026
- Independent schools - Independent or Religious Institute Catholic schools	School From 26 October 2026	School Progressively from 26 October, as data is uploaded by 20 November 2026

Find information about:

- submitting Year 2 2026 enrolment data — **for Independent and Religious Institute schools** (i.e. not State and Diocesan Catholic) — in the [QCAA Portal](#) fileShare app > General files tab.
- checking Year 2 enrolment data — **for all schools** — in [QCAA Portal](#) Help > NAPLAN Administration > Check Year 2 enrolment data.

Note: Only upload Year 2 data (not other year levels) and do not use class groups in this process. Year 3 2027 enrolment data will be collected early in 2027 to confirm the most current data is imported into the [Online National Assessment Platform](#). This is a separate collection from the Year 2 2026 enrolment data collection above.

School test schedule

Create your school's 2027 test schedule after considering expected enrolments in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 for 2027, available devices and network capacity.

Do **not** schedule camps, excursions, sports days or other events that require students to be offsite/unavailable in the nine-day test window until your school has completed all testing.

Writing tests must be scheduled on day 1, 10 March 2027, followed by Reading, Conventions of Language, then Numeracy.

The 2027 Eid al-Fitr falls within the NAPLAN test window. Information about scheduling tests around Eid al-Fitr is available from ACARA: [Ramadan, Eid al-Fitr and NAPLAN](#).

Student devices

Visit the updated [Device requirements](#) page to ensure school/student devices intended for use in NAPLAN 2027 meet the required technical specifications.

Note: Windows 10 is no longer supported. Touchscreen devices (other than iPads) continue to be unsupported. Use of such touchscreen devices may result in answer selections not being saved during testing.

NAPLAN Training and Practice environment

From January 2027, the NAPLAN Training and Practice environment will be available.

- Use the environment to support student familiarisation with the [Online National Assessment Platform](#), staff training, and device/network readiness testing.
- Download the 2027 locked-down browser from the [Online National Assessment Platform](#) and use the browser for practice tests.
- Access the refreshed login credentials for the NAPLAN Training and Practice environment that will be uploaded to the [QCAA Portal](#) fileShare app for your school.

NAPLAN webinars

QCAA will deliver a series of webinars to support schools in administering NAPLAN in Term 1 2027. Visit [QCAA PD & events](#) to find information about and register for these webinars. Information will be available towards the end of Term 4 2026.

What you need to do

In Term 4 2026:

- apply for [QCAA-approved alternative format NAPLAN AARA](#) by the relevant due dates
- submit Year 2 2026 enrolment data to the [QCAA Portal](#) NAPLAN Administration app from **26 October 2026** if you are an Independent or Religious Institute (i.e. not State and Diocesan Catholic) school
- **all schools** — verify the accuracy of Year 2 2026 enrolment data in the [QCAA Portal](#) NAPLAN Administration app by **20 November 2026**
- create your school's test schedule for the NAPLAN 2027 test event
- check devices meet the minimum requirements outlined on the [Online National Assessment Platform](#) > [Device requirements](#) page
- register for webinars at [QCAA PD & events](#) to support your preparations for NAPLAN 2027.

Finding out more

For further information or support, please email the QCAA NAPLAN Helpdesk at naplan@qcaa.qld.edu.au or phone 1300 214 452.

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