Prep – Year 10

Alternative formats for students with disability for the 2013 National Assessment Program — Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests

Purpose
To advise principals of the procedure for requesting alternative formats of the 2013 NAPLAN tests required for students with disabilities. The tests are available in braille, large print, black and white, and electronic formats.

Background
Adjustments are permitted in the tests for students with disability to support their access to the tests and to facilitate maximum participation. For the NAPLAN program, disability is defined as per the Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act 1992.

The Disability Standards for Education (2005) provide a framework to ensure that students with disability are able to access and participate in education on the same basis as other students, and outlines the obligations of school education providers under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992.

The framework provides for:
• consultation with the student (or an associate of the student)
• consideration of whether an adjustment is necessary
• if an adjustment is necessary, identification of a reasonable adjustment
• making the reasonable adjustment.

Information
In order to maximise student access to the NAPLAN tests, adjustments may need to be made for students with disability. These adjustments should reflect the specific educational provisions and support that is normally provided for students to learn and to demonstrate what they know and can do.

Braille, large print, black and white testbooks and stimulus materials are available as an adjustment for students who normally access these types of formats for learning and assessment.

An electronic version of the tests is available for students who are unable to access a pencil-and-paper test through any of the other adjustments that are available, including the use of large print material or assistive technology. This electronic format enables students to answer questions on screen and may be appropriate for students with disability who use a computer as part of their usual adjustments and who have at least one of the following:
• severe vision problems and who are not braille proficient
• severe physical disabilities that restrict movement.

Access to this format will be granted on the basis that a student is not otherwise able to access the test in the standard pencil-and-paper format.
All schools now have the opportunity to order alternative-format materials within the designated timelines.

**What you need to do**

Before applying for an alternative format for a student, the principal is required to consult with a student's parents/carers and the specialist and support staff who have responsibility for the student's educational program. The record of this consultation must be documented and kept at the school, using the *Application for adjustment for disability* form (for school use only), which is available from the QSA website.

To request test materials in alternative formats — braille, large print, black and white, electronic — principals must complete the appropriate electronic form for each student requiring testbooks in these formats.

The electronic application forms are available on the school's NAPLAN Student Details page of the secure section of the QSA website, which can be accessed through the NAPLAN portal at [https://naplan.qsa.qld.edu.au/naplan](https://naplan.qsa.qld.edu.au/naplan) using the school's BIC and password.

The NAPLAN portal can also be accessed from the QSA home page ([www.qsa.qld.edu.au](http://www.qsa.qld.edu.au)) under Services online.

Applications for alternative formats of the tests must be submitted to the QSA by **Friday 22 February**.

**More information**

If you require further information about alternative NAPLAN test formats for children with disability, please email NAPLAN.tests@qsa.qld.edu.au, or phone (07) 3864 0475.

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