

MEDIA RELEASE

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NAPLAN ONLINE TO COMMENCE IN 2018

Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) Chief Executive Officer, Robert Randall, has welcomed the continuing commitment by all states and territories to move NAPLAN online, while acknowledging that NAPLAN will continue to be undertaken as a paper test in 2017. The ACT, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria and Western Australia had been planning to transition this year, but have now delayed the commencement of NAPLAN Online until 2018.

“Moving NAPLAN online by 2019 has been a goal of all states and territories for several years now and that shared commitment continues,” Mr Randall said. “Moving NAPLAN online will result in better assessment, more precise results and faster turnaround of information. A phased transition over three years has always been the plan, and was established to ensure flexibility for when the transition is made.”

Mr Randall said confidence in the readiness of the online platform to deliver the tests was of the utmost importance and a key consideration for states and territories.

“While it is disappointing that the initial 10 per cent of schools in the five states and territories that had planned to begin moving online in 2017 now will not be doing so, we want NAPLAN Online to be successful for everyone. I respect the decision of states and territories to delay transition to allow more time to gain a greater level of confidence for the move online,” Mr Randall said.

“The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy must continue to provide all students with a fair opportunity to demonstrate their achievement in literacy and numeracy.

“Preparation for the move online will continue this year, with schools able to participate in a practice of the technology, or a ‘readiness test’, in August and September.

“ACARA and Education Services Australia have been working with the Australian Government and all states and territories on the planning, research and development activity required for the transition online, including developing the NAPLAN online test, building the online assessment platform as well as trialling, testing and training in schools.

“ACARA appreciates all of the work that has been undertaken in schools and all states and territories in preparation for the move online and looks forward to building on this as we work towards our shared commitment for all schools in all states and territories to be undertaking NAPLAN online by 2019,” Mr Randall said.

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