



St Agnes Catholic High School

PO Box 24, ROOTY HILL NSW 2766

phone: 8882 0700

fax: 8882 0790

email: stagnes@parra.catholic.edu.au

website: www.stagnesrootyhill.catholic.edu.au

Monday 5 March 2018

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Re: HSC minimum standard update for Year 10 parents

The NSW government is committed to requiring students to demonstrate a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy to receive the HSC from 2020, because these skills are needed for success in life after school. There will be multiple opportunities for your child to show they meet the HSC minimum standard by passing online tests of basic reading, writing and numeracy skills. These tests can be taken this year, in Year 11 or 12 or after the HSC.

From this year, **Year 9 NAPLAN tests will no longer be an early way for students to demonstrate the standard.** This change has been made to ensure NAPLAN remains focussed on its original diagnostic purpose and reduce unnecessary stress on young people. Please be assured that if **your child achieved Band 8's or above in one or more of the 2017 Year 9 NAPLAN reading, writing or numeracy tests, they are recognised as having met the HSC minimum standard in that area/s and will not need to sit the corresponding online test/s.**

There are three separate 45-minute online tests: reading, writing and numeracy. Students don't have to pass all three tests at once and can attempt each test up to twice a year. The reading and numeracy tests each contain a maximum of 45 multiple choice questions, while the writing test contains one question based on a visual or text prompt requiring up to a 500 word-response.

Students can try some sample questions at <https://hsliteracynumeracy.nesa.nsw.edu.au/>

The first opportunity for Year 10 students to demonstrate the standard will be in **Week 7, between Tuesday 13th – Thursday 15th March.** A further opportunity, if required will be provided in Term 4. Students will be completing the online tests in the San Damiano Centre and are required to bring their iPad to the exam room fully charged.

Yours Sincerely,

Lisa-Maree Browning
Principal

Laurence De Martin
Teaching and Learning Coordinator: Curriculum