

Information for parents: HSC Minimum Standards tests.

- Students in mainstream courses now need to achieve **minimum literacy and numeracy standards** in order to gain a Higher School Certificate. The standards are in reading, writing and numeracy, and the first chance students have to show them will be in Year 10.
- The standards required are set at **Level 3** of the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF), which describes the functional level of literacy and numeracy required for life, further study and work.



- From the start of Year 10, students will have up to four chances each year to sit **on-line tests** in reading, writing and numeracy. The tests must be done at school, under supervision. Once students have achieved the minimum standard in a particular area, they don't have to take that test again.
- Students in mainstream courses who **don't achieve** the minimum standards will still be allowed to move to Year 11 and 12, sit for their HSC and gain an ATAR. But, at the end of Year 12, they will receive a Record of Achievement, not the Higher School Certificate.
- Students with disability may be granted **special provisions** for the Minimum Standards tests, as for other tests. These may include extra time, rest breaks and other provisions, as approved by the Principal. Other adjustments, such as changes to font size and background colour, can be made on-screen.
- Some students with disability, and studying Lifeskills courses, may receive an **exemption** from Minimum Standards courses, and may still gain their HSC credential.
- In preparation for the Minimum Standards tests, please:



- strongly encourage your son's **participation in all literacy/numeracy programs**, Years 7 to 9, including after-school Homework Help, timetabled literacy classes and Google Classroom programs;
 - **respond to all reports** which suggest difficulties being experienced in literacy or numeracy skills (Year 9 NAPLAN scores of at least Band 7 are good indications); and
 - take up every offer of **extra support** from the school.
- **For further information**, refer to:
 - NESAs website: educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/HSCminimumstandard;
 - NESAs policy on Disability Provisions, Exemptions and Appeals, available from the school on request;or contact Mr Bawden at the school (Ph: 9773 7806, Mondays) if there are further queries.

