

22 February 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

ACT schools will participate in NAPLAN Online testing from **15-27 March 2023**. Closer to the date, we will release a timetable to students and parents outlining when each test is scheduled. Education ministers agreed that NAPLAN would move to Term One from 2023. This will mean results will be available to education authorities earlier in the year to inform school and system teaching and learning programs and will assist teachers to better determine support students' needs for the coming year.

At Merici College, we would like to reiterate that NAPLAN serves as a growth measurement and not something that students should feel they have to study for. Rather, the skills and knowledge that students are learning at Merici are guided by the principles of the Science of Learning, which will ensure that our girls are equipped with the skills they need to show growth in their NAPLAN journey.

As a parent, you can become familiar with NAPLAN Online tests by visiting the public demonstration site, <http://bit.ly/naplanonline>. The purpose of the site is to familiarise students with the type of items they will see on NAPLAN Online and related functionalities. This level of familiarisation is worthwhile to help students understand and be comfortable with the format of the test.

NAPLAN Online allows for tailored testing. This means that student are presented with sets of questions based on their performance during the test. This model provides students with the opportunity to better demonstrate their range of literacy and numeracy skills and it is more engaging for students. Further information explaining tailored testing can be found at <https://bit.ly/2PgG7rL>.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss your son or daughter's participation in this event, please contact our NAPLAN Coordinators Bianca Porcheddu bianca.porcheddu@merici.act.edu.au or Nicole Commins Nicole.commins@merici.act.edu.au. Further information on NAPLAN Online, including the public demonstration site, is available at www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online.

Privacy

The Education Directorate collects, holds, uses and discloses personal information to carry out its functions. Personal information about students and parents/carers will be used as part of NAPLAN Online testing and readiness tests. The use of this information is required for students to participate in NAPLAN testing, provide reports to parents and schools and to undertake research and compile statistics using anonymised data. More detail on how we handle your information is available in the Education Directorate Privacy Policy available at <https://bit.ly/2ZYzdtN>.

As part of undertaking NAPLAN Online, the Education Directorate works closely with the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) and Education Services Australia (ESA). ESA operates the NAPLAN Online platform which will contain personal information. ACARA will collect anonymised information about each student who takes the test online from the Education Directorate. Further information on how ACARA and ESA protect privacy is available through the ACARA privacy infographic <https://bit.ly/3uA6YiR> and ESA Privacy Policy www.esa.edu.au/other/privacy.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anna Masters". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

Anna Masters
Principal