

Information on NAPLAN 2018 and Ramadan

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) helps parents, carers and teachers see if students are meeting important numeracy and literacy standards. It allows teachers to monitor students' progress over time and to identify areas of strength and areas for development.

2018 NAPLAN paper test window

15–17 May

2018 NAPLAN online test window

15–25 May

Further information

For more information about NAPLAN visit the NAP website at nap.edu.au or contact your child's school or your state or territory's education authority (details available on the NAP website).

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This year, NAPLAN testing commences on 15 May 2018, which coincides with the beginning of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan that begins on 14 or 15 May 2018. Muslims may observe the period by fasting from food and drink from sunrise to sunset, with a focus on devotion and spiritual contemplation.

NAPLAN testing dates are established well in advance of testing years, accommodating different term dates in all states and territories. As Ramadan's commencement date changes each year and has a duration of one month, it may at times fall during NAPLAN.

During the NAPLAN testing period, what support can schools, parents and carers provide for students who are observing Ramadan?

Following consultation with the Muslim community, the following information and guidance is provided for schools, parents and carers in offering support to students observing Ramadan and undertaking NAPLAN:

- To identify appropriate measures, parents and carers may wish to discuss with their child's school any concerns regarding the child observing Ramadan and participating in NAPLAN.
- At the beginning of Ramadan, when NAPLAN commences, many families and students may be getting into the rhythm of fasting, as well as rising before dawn, and may be more tired than usual.
- Not all Muslim students and families may commence fasting on the same day; in 2018, Ramadan may commence on 14 or 15 May.
- Not all Muslim students are required to fast, though their families may still be observing Ramadan.
- Muslim students who are fasting abstain from all food and drink during daylight hours, breaking fast at sunset and then rising early each morning of Ramadan to consume food and drink prior to the commencement of the day.

What happens if a child is absent from school on test days?

All students are encouraged to participate in NAPLAN tests. Where possible, schools will organise for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule.