

NAPLAN 2026 and Ramadan

In 2026, NAPLAN testing will coincide with the Islamic holy month of Ramadan and the celebration of Eid al-Fitr. Muslims may observe Ramadan by fasting from food and drink from sunrise to sunset, with a focus on devotion and spiritual contemplation.

NAPLAN testing dates are established in consultation with state, territory and federal authorities, accommodating different term dates in all states and territories. As dates for Ramadan and Eid al-Fitr change each year, they may at times fall during the NAPLAN test window.

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

After consulting with Islamic schools' representatives, the following guidance is provided for schools, parents and carers in offering support to students observing Ramadan and undertaking NAPLAN:

- Parents and carers should discuss any concerns with their child's school to identify what support measures are available, including with scheduling tests.
- At the beginning of Ramadan, 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. Schools are encouraged to schedule NAPLAN tests first thing in the morning to ensure fasting students' energy levels are at their highest.

What happens if a school is closed for Eid al-Fitr or a student is absent on test days?

All students are encouraged to participate in NAPLAN tests. Schools are encouraged to schedule tests early in the test window to avoid coinciding with Eid al-Fitr celebrations and as outlined in the *2026 NAPLAN national protocols for test administration*.

Where possible, schools will organise for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at a later time in the school's test schedule.

Schools that will be closed during testing days and who need to vary their NAPLAN test schedule must request permission from their local [test administration authority](#).

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is a nationwide measure to see whether or not young Australians are developing the literacy and numeracy skills that provide the critical foundation for other learning, and for their productive and rewarding participation in the community.

2026 NAPLAN test window
11–23 March

Ramadan starts
18 February*

Eid al-Fitr
19 to 21 March*

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 test administration authority](#).

* Dates are approximate.