



McAuley Catholic College

Pacific Highway, Clarenza
Locked Bag 521
Grafton. 2460
Phone (02) 6643 1434
Fax (02) 6643 2137
grafs@lism.catholic.edu.au
www.mccgrafton.nsw.edu.au

March 2nd 2018

Dear Parent or Caregiver,

Re: HSC minimum standard update

The NSW Government requires 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. Last week a change was announced by the NSW Education Minister regarding the requirements of the HSC minimum literacy and numeracy standard.

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.

For **students currently in Year 10** the following applies. If your child achieved Band 8 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 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 when your child is ready in Years 10, 11 and 12 and after the HSC. Further information about how and when these tests can be taken at the College will be provided. Students can familiarise themselves with the the online tests by undertaking the practice tests.

Some students will be eligible for disability provisions in the online tests or be exempt from meeting the HSC minimum standard in order to receive their HSC.

Parents are encouraged to access the [NSW Education Standards Authority \(NESA\)](http://www.nesa.nsw.gov.au) website which provides details of the HSC minimum standard. Important information will also be placed on the College Website.

An information session for parents and carers regarding the HSC minimum standard will be held **Tuesday 6th March in the College Library from 6.15 - 6.45pm.**

Yours sincerely

Tiffany Lee
Leader of Curriculum

Mark O'Farrell
Principal