

HSC Minimum Standards

If you are sitting your HSC exams in or after 2020 you will need to meet a [minimum standard of literacy and numeracy](http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/hsc-minimum-standard/what-is-the-standard) to receive your Higher School Certificate.

* Literacy and numeracy skills are key for success in everyday life. Achieving the HSC minimum standard means you will have a [level of skills](http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/hsc-minimum-standard/what-is-the-standard/skill-level-required) necessary for success after school.
* Students show they have met the HSC minimum standard by passing [online tests](http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/hsc-minimum-standard/online-tests)of basic reading, writing and numeracy skills needed for everyday tasks. The minimum standard online tests are not based on NAPLAN.
* Students master basic skills at different stages so there are multiple opportunities available for students to [understand what to expect](http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/hsc-minimum-standard/online-tests/what-to-expect-in-the-tests) and pass the minimum standard online tests, from Year 10 until a few years after Year 12.
* Some students will be eligible for [disability provisions for the minimum standard tests, or an exemption](http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/hsc-minimum-standard/disability-provisions-exemptions) from the HSC minimum standard requirement.

Important changes to the HSC minimum standard

From this year, [Year 9 NAPLAN tests will no longer be available as an early way for students to demonstrate the standard](http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/about/news/media-releases/media-release-detail/changes-to-the-hsc-minimum-standard). This change has been made to ensure NAPLAN remains focussed on its diagnostic purpose and to reduce unnecessary stress on young people.

Current Year 10 students who achieved a Band 8 or above in a 2017 Year 9 NAPLAN reading, writing or numeracy test are recognised as having met the HSC minimum standard in that particular area and will not need to sit the corresponding online test. If students did not get Band 8s or above they will need to take the corresponding online tests.

**PLEASE REFER TO THE LINK BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/hsc-minimum-standard**