

# Holy Cross College, Ryde

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5 March 2018

Dear Parents/Caregivers of Year 9 and 10

## Re: Update HSC minimum standard

You may be aware from recent press reports the NSW Government has announced that from this year, Year 9 NAPLAN tests will no longer be an early way for students to demonstrate the HSC minimum standards in regards to Numeracy and Literacy. This change has been made to ensure NAPLAN remains focused on its original diagnostic purpose and reduce unnecessary stress on young people. However, the Government is committed to requiring 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. There will be multiple opportunities for your son 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 son is ready in Years 10, 11 and 12 and after the HSC.

In regards to Year 10 students please be assured that if your son achieved Band 8s or above in one or more of the 2017 Year 9 NAPLAN reading, writing or numeracy tests, he is recognised as having met the HSC minimum standard in that area/s and will not need to sit the corresponding online test/s.

The first of the online test for Year 10 will be undertaken over the coming weeks and will involve students who received a Band 7 in the 2017 Year 9 NAPLAN reading, writing or numeracy tests. Further opportunities to undertake the online test will occur throughout 2018, as well as when your son is in Year 11, 12 and after the HSC.

If you require any further information in regards the HSC minimum standards or online tests please do not hesitate to contact Mr Michael Croucher, Director of Learning and Curriculum here at the College, email: [michael.croucher@syd.catholic.edu.au](mailto:michael.croucher@syd.catholic.edu.au)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Stewart'.

Mr Phillip Stewart  
PRINCIPAL