



26 May 2021

HSC Minimum Standard Testing

Dear Parents/Carers,

NESA* minimum standard is set at Level 3 of the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF). This level reflects the basic literacy and numeracy skills a person requires to function effectively in everyday life. All students must pass the tests at a minimum of Level 3 to be eligible for the HSC and post-school qualifications. For more detailed information visit www.educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/HSCminimumstandard.

The Minimum Standards testing consists of 3 areas: Reading, Writing and Numeracy. These are completed online. During Term 2 students have engaged in a series of preparatory activities that have provided them with an understanding of the requirements of each test and an opportunity to complete at least one practice response in each area.

Students have 4 opportunities to complete the tests and achieve the minimum standard. Students who do not achieve the minimum standard in their first attempt will engage in further literacy and numeracy support activities. They will re-sit the required tests at least 30 days after the previous attempt or at point of readiness.

The first attempt of the HSC Minimum Standards tests will occur on Monday 21 June. This will be conducted as a formal examination in the PWS. Students will complete the three tests on this day.

TEST FORMAT

Students have 45 minutes to complete each test.

Reading: 45 adaptive** multiple choice questions
Numeracy: 45 adaptive** multiple choice questions
Writing: 500 word response to 1 question based on a visual or text prompt; typed in an onscreen text box

If you have any questions please contact Ms Alyssa Roach, Ms Michelle O'Neill or Mr Iain Cowan.

Yours Sincerely,

Ms Alyssa Roach
Assistant Principal

Mr Iain Cowan
Leader of Learning – Stage 5

* NESA: NSW Education Standards Authority

** Adaptive: tailors to student's ability. Questions become harder or easier depending on whether a student is answering questions correctly or incorrectly.