

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017**

**Outcome: Schools and Youth**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000461**

Senator Collins, Jacinta provided in writing.

***Agreed national literacy and numeracy standards***

**Question**

- How is the Department implementing the commitment to report annually to parents against agreed national literacy and numeracy standards for every year of schooling? (commitment, p. 9 Quality Schools, Quality Outcomes document)
- Are currently agreed national literacy and numeracy standards currently in place for every year of schooling?
- How will schools measure students against these standards?
- How will the Department monitor ongoing implementation of this commitment?

**Answer**

In May 2016, the Australian Government's *Quality Schools, Quality Outcomes* policy document for school reform outlined a number of key areas for future focus. It was clearly outlined in the policy document that "consultation with states and territories, the non-government school sector, teachers, school leaders and the community will be central to the development of future schooling directions."

The Minister for Education and Training is undertaking this consultation through a range of mechanisms, including Education Council.

The general capabilities of literacy and numeracy in the Australian Curriculum have a learning continuum that describes student achievement in each year from Foundation to Year 10 (levels 1 to 6).

For the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN), all education ministers have agreed to national minimum standards in literacy and numeracy for the year levels tested (Years 3, 5, 7 and 9).