

From:  
Mrs Meryl Child

I have been teaching for over 30 years. I am committed to public education and for most of my teaching career, I have worked in disadvantaged schools. As a school, we continually try to improve our quality of teaching to meet the specific learning needs of our students. We always analyse NAPLAN data and adjust our teaching programs to improve outcomes.

Results indicate significant improvements in maths and literacy between Year 3 and Year 5. However, our students are mostly 1st phase ESL in kindergarten and it takes at least 7 years to bridge the gap in literacy learning.

When the results for NAPLAN were published in SMH, as a teacher, I was devastated for the staff and school community. I felt shamed that our school was so low on the list. My self esteem, enthusiasm, energy and commitment to teaching were initially destroyed.

We, as a staff, know that we put 100% effort into our teaching and always put our students first. We do not deserve unprofessional people to pass judgement on our teaching qualifications.

I challenge them to do a better job!