

I am concerned about the misuse of NAPLAN results being made available on sites such as My Schools Website or in league tables for the following reasons:

I feel that whilst some attempt is made to compare schools on certain criteria the criteria are far from realistic in light of many criteria that were not included.

I am concerned that our school is not properly represented because in public schools academically gifted children go on to schools with OC classes. Last year and the year before our school lost 7 and 9 students to OC classes. This is close to 10% of our Year 5 cohort. Our school also caters for special needs students with a support unit. The children in this unit sit the NAPLAN and their results are included in the school results.

Private schools are selective even if not entirely academically - there will always be some kind of selection process. I fear that they will become even more so in order to make themselves look better.

Already I find myself as a teacher adjusting the way I teach mathematics and text type writing in order cover as much ground before the NAPLAN rather than taking a more systematic approach over the whole of Year 5 which is educationally more sound.

I fear that in smaller schools students may even be able to be identified because it will be fairly obvious who the very low achiever is or the very high achiever.

Just some things that have concerned me.

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