

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018**

Outcome: Agency: ACARA

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000804

Senator Collins, Jacinta provided in writing.

ACARA: NAPLAN online trial

Question

When were concerns first raised by the states and territories about readiness for the May trial of NAPLAN online?

What were these concerns?

What did ACARA do to address the issues?

Answer

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) has provided the following response.

ACARA became aware of the concerns raised by states and territories about the online assessment platform and school readiness for the May NAPLAN online test in mid to late March 2017.

These concerns were raised following testing in schools which detected new platform related issues, such as rendering and iPad issues, that had not previously been detected in earlier end-to-end testing.

Under agreed governance arrangements ACARA is primarily responsible for ensuring the NAPLAN tests are ready to run online, not technical platform issues such as rendering and iPad related issues. However, ACARA attempted to replicate any applicable issue and provided advice as appropriate.

Issues identified by jurisdictions prior to NAPLAN 2017 are being addressed in collaboration with the Australian Government, Education Services Australia and all states and territories as preparation for the move to NAPLAN online continues.