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Dear Parent/Carer

6th March 2019

Bairnsdale Secondary College conducts NAPLAN testing for Years 7 & 9 students in May each year. NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in Writing, Reading, Conventions of Language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. The College employs a wide range of assessment tools and uses the data collected to improve student outcomes.

Bairnsdale Secondary College will conduct all NAPLAN tests in an online format (students complete the tests using a computer).

NAPLAN Online delivers numerous benefits to students, including:

- a 'tailored test' that adapts the questions as a student progresses through the test to suit the level of understanding of each individual student
- a use of technology that is more engaging for students
- a longer testing period allowing the College to schedule the tests at the best times for students.

All Year 7 & 9 students will have the opportunity to become familiar with the online NAPLAN format prior to the test period in May. This will take place during Maths or English classes at the end of term 1.

Parents and students are also able to access the NAPLAN Public Demonstration website. To preview the test platform and sample test questions visit: <http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>.

All students are expected to participate in the NAPLAN Online tests. There may be circumstances where your child requires additional supports, be made exempt or withdrawn from NAPLAN tests. Support can be arranged for students with disabilities and exemptions or withdrawals are allowed under some circumstances.

If you would like more information about exemption or support, or you wish to discuss withdrawing your child from the NAPLAN tests, please contact your child's Learning Hub *by the end of Term 1*. Consultation with the College is required before any support, exemption or withdrawal is granted.

For more information about NAPLAN Online, please visit the VCAA website [at www.vcaa.vic.edu.au](http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au) or the NAP website at www.nap.edu.au.

Kind Regards

Huw Porter
Assistant Principal