



## Frequently Asked Questions on the HSC Minimum Standard Tests

### 1. How will my child demonstrate they have met the *HSC Minimum Standard* for Numeracy and Literacy?

- All Year 10 students will sit three online tests at school in Term 1.
    - The numeracy and reading are 45 minute multiple choice tests
    - The writing test is a 500 word response to a visual or text prompt
- After each test, students will be notified of their results **via their school email**.

### 2. How many opportunities are there to achieve the *Minimum Standard*?

- The first opportunity to meet the standard is **Term One in Year 10**
- It is proposed that students will have up to **four (4) opportunities** to sit the online tests in each year.

### 3. What happens if a student does not meet the *HSC Standard* by the end of Year 12?

- Students will have **five (5) years** after starting their first HSC course to meet the Literacy and Numeracy standard and receive a HSC.

### 4. If a student does not meet the standard prior to the end of Year 12 can they still sit for the HSC examinations?

- Yes, students will not be excluded from sitting for their HSC exams if they have not met the standard.
- Students who sit for the HSC exams without meeting the standard will have their results recorded on the Record of School Achievement (RoSA).

### 5. Will students still receive a credential if they don't meet the *Minimum Standard*?

- Yes. Year 12 students who do not meet the *Minimum Standard* for award of the HSC will receive the Record of School Achievement (RoSA).

### 6. Will there be exemptions from the *Minimum Standard* requirement for some students?

- Yes. The following exemptions apply:
  - students undertaking Life Skills English or Mathematics courses in Years 9, 10, 11 or
  - students undertaking a full Life Skills program (ie four or more Life Skills courses)
  - Students with a disability will also receive appropriate adjustments to sit NESA online literacy and numeracy test (through the existing NESA special provisions policy).

### 7. Will students who have not met the *Minimum Standard* for award of the HSC be able to apply to University?

- Yes. The HSC is not a requirement for an *Australian Tertiary Admission Rank* (ATAR). The ATAR is an Australian ranking system used by Universities to allocate university placements. The ATAR is not a mark, nor is it a summary of the HSC.

#### More information can be found at:

<http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/hsc-minimum-standard>