



22 July 2020

YEAR 9 ONLINE LITERACY AND NUMERACY ASSESSMENTS (OLNA) TERM 3, 2020.

Dear Parents/Carers,

The Department of Education requires all students, who wish to receive a West Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) from secondary school, at the end of Year 12, to have achieved a certain standard of literacy and numeracy, which is Band 8 in the Naplan tests or Category 3 in the OLNA tests.

As this year's Naplan testing was cancelled, due to the Corona Virus, Year 9 students did not have the opportunity to demonstrate literacy and numeracy competence this year.

Year 9 students will therefore be provided with the opportunity to sit the term 3, 2020 OLNA tests in week 4 of this term.

This will occur from **Monday 10th August to Wednesday 12th August** in the learning areas English and Maths.

Year 9 students who have already achieved these standards in writing, in the Year 7 Naplan writing test, will be exempt from the requirement to complete the OLNA writing test in Year 9 this year.

Note that the OLNA writing assessments are only available to students on these dates and these dates cannot be varied for any reason.

It is essential for your children to make sure they are available on the advertised testing dates as no special consideration will be provided for students who miss the assessment window.

OLNA testing occurs at dates pre-determined by the Secondary Curriculum and Standards Authority and the school has no authority to vary these test dates to suit the personal circumstances of individual families.

Students will be informed by their class teachers, closer to the testing dates during term 3, if they are required to participate in any part of the testing program.

It is extremely important for parents and students to note that for almost all students, no exemptions from the testing will be allowed by the Department of Education, for students who have not achieved the required Category 3 standards for literacy and numeracy.

Students who fail to demonstrate the required literacy and numeracy standards will be required to sit the OLNA testing in March and September each year, until the required standards are reached.

Failure to reach this standard, by the conclusion of Year 12, will mean that a student cannot receive the WACE or qualify for secondary graduation.

All OLNA testing will be conducted online in the College's computer labs and consist of:

- One sixty minute extended writing response (plus 10 minutes administration time).
- One fifty minute multiple choice reading test (plus 10 minutes administration time).
- One fifty minute multiple choice numeracy test (plus 10 minutes administration time).

Students are only permitted to take pens, pencils, erasers and spare paper into the tests and no calculators, dictionaries, mobile phones, thesauruses or use of online help software such as Google or spellcheckers will be permitted.

Any breaches of these conditions will result in a student being withdrawn from that test and deemed to have failed.

The Secondary Curriculum and Standards Authority uses specialised software to scan all student responses to detect copying or plagiarism from other online texts such as Google documents and students identified by this process are deemed to have failed the testing in that subject.

Students who are not required to sit the OLNA tests, will continue with their normal school program.

All students will receive comprehensive information from their class teachers, closer to the testing dates in term 3, explaining what they need to do during OLNA testing.

Due to the required period extension, for some tests, recess and lunch break timing may be modified on some test days, however students will receive the normal recess and lunch time breaks for the same time duration.

Should you have any further questions related to the operation of the OLNA testing program at Greenwood College or your child's involvement, please contact the College for further information.

Yours sincerely,

David Mayes
Deputy Principal