

Nathalia Primary School

REPORTING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT & PROGRESS POLICY

POLICY

This policy outlines school obligations relating to student reporting across Foundation to Year 10 (including English as an additional language students) to parents/carers, the Department and the wider community

SUMMARY

- Schools are required to formally report student achievement and progress to parents/carers at least twice per school year for each student enrolled at the school.
- The report must be a written report (print or digital), be in an accessible form and be easy for parents/carers to understand.
- Schools must report directly against the Victorian [Curriculum F-10 achievement standards](#).
- Both student achievement and progress must be included in the report.
- Opportunities must be provided for parents/carers and students to discuss the school report with teachers and/or school leaders.
- The Department does not prescribe a reporting format but Nathalia Primary School uses the Compass format for Student Progress Reports.
- Schools must upload their student achievement data via CASES21 twice yearly — by 30 June and 31 December each year.
- Student reports must be kept for identified time periods. In some cases, student reports are considered permanent records, which prohibits their disposal.

DETAILS

Requirements for student reporting in Victorian government schools are defined with reference to:

- the [Guidelines to the Minimum Standards and Requirements for School Registration](#) issued by the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA)
- the [F-10 Revised Curriculum Planning and Reporting Guidelines](#) issued by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA)
- Departmental policies.

Reporting to parents/carers

Schools are required to formally report student achievement and progress to parents/carers at least twice per school year for each student enrolled at the school. The report must be:

- a written report (print or digital)
- in an accessible form, and
- easy for parents/carers to understand.

Schools must report directly against the [Victorian Curriculum F-10 achievement standards](#).

Both student achievement and progress must be included in the report.

A five-point scale must be used when reporting on student achievement and progress:

- this requirement cannot be met by using the existing levels of the curriculum
- for English, Mathematics and Science, at least an age-related five-point scale is required
- for all other curriculum areas, including English as an Additional Language (EAL), an age-related scale is not required however another kind of five-point scale must be used (for example, a scale developed around learning goals or learning dimensions)
- more than one scale may be used for the same learning area or capability.

Opportunities must be provided for parents/carers and students to discuss the school report with teachers and/or school leaders.

Interpreting services are available for communicating with parents/carers who require assistance in understanding their child's achievement and progress. Refer to [Interpreting and Translation Services](#).

Note that there may be specific instances where a school decides in partnership with an individual student and their parents/carers that an alternative to a full report for that student is appropriate.

The Department does not prescribe a reporting format but Nathalia Primary School uses the Compass format for Student Progress Reports.

Further support, guidance and advice regarding student reporting can be found on the [Guidance](#) tab.

Reporting to the Department

Schools must upload their student achievement data via CASES21 twice yearly — by 30 June and 31 December each year.

Schools must record data in the Department's specified format so that CASES21 can accept it.

There are 2 methods for recording data:

- an import/export process utilising commercial reporting software, or
- direct entry into CASES21.

If schools use commercial reporting software, they must ensure the vendor is compliant with the Department's specified format.

This data is used by the Department to:

- automate some reporting processes for schools — for example, preparation of the performance summary in each school's annual report to the school community, which is a statutory requirement for every school
- provide school improvement reports to school leaders so they can better understand student achievement and progress at the cohort levels and across the whole school — such reports can help inform school strategic planning and review
- identify characteristics and trends in data across schools that may need to be investigated or attended to by the Department (for example, a sharp increase or decline in achievement at the highest levels in one or more learning areas).

A step-by-step process for preparing student achievement data and sending summary results to the Department is provided in the [CASES21 Administration User Guide Chapter 23 — Student Achievement](#) (staff login required).

Records management

Student reports are records. In some case, they are considered permanent records, which prohibits their disposal.

Student reports must be kept for the following time periods:

- Prep to Year 8 (all reports): 6 years after student departure
- Year 9 to 12 reports (excluding final report): 30 years after student departure
- Year 9 to 12 reports (final report): A permanent record — must be kept in the school until a transfer to the Public Record Office Victoria (PROV) is arranged by the Department.

For further information on records management in schools refer to [Records Management — School Records](#).

DEFINITIONS

CASES21

The software component of the Computerised Administrative System Environment for Schools

English as an additional language (EAL) student

A student for whom English is an additional language (EAL) is a student who:

- comes from a language background other than English
- speaks a language other than English as their main language at home
- may or may not attract EAL index funding

RELATED POLICIES

- [Curriculum Programs Foundation to 10](#)
- [Assessment of Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](#)
- [Records Management — School Records](#)