Terms of Reference – Review of NAPLAN data presentation

Education Council reiterates its commitment to a valid, reliable, standardised and transparent national approach to measuring student performance and NAPLAN reporting currently plays an important role in this context.

The Education Council of COAG notes that the Review to Achieve Educational Excellence in Australian Schools recommends for the creation of an online, on-demand formative assessment tool based on the Australian Curriculum.

Education Council has requested a review of the current approach to presentation of National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) data, including information published on the My School website.

Education Council remains committed to the provision of clear information about the progress of students against basic and essential literacy and numeracy benchmarks.

Scope of the Review

The review will inform the Education Council about:

- current presentation on My School of school, system, sector and jurisdiction performance data, in the context of the initial (2009) principles and protocols for reporting on schooling:
  - Principle 1: Reporting should be in the broad public interest.
  - Principle 2: Reporting on the outcomes of schooling should use data that is valid, reliable and contextualised.
  - Principle 3: Reporting should be sufficiently comprehensive to enable proper interpretation and understanding of the information.
  - Principle 4: Reporting should involve balancing the community’s right to know with the need to avoid the misinterpretation or misuse of the information.
- The extent to which current presentation of data to schools and their communities supports their understanding of student progress and achievement.
- perceptions of NAPLAN reporting and My School data and the extent to which they meet reasonable public accountability and transparency expectations and requirements, including considering any misinterpretation and misuse of information and subsequent consequences.
- how teachers and school leaders use NAPLAN and its results and My School data to inform teaching practice.
- how teachers and school leaders communicate NAPLAN results and My School data to students and parents.
- international best practice for teacher, school and system level transparency and accountability.

The review will be conducted by an independent reviewer, overseen by AESOC, with support from the Schools Policy Group.

The reviewer will consult with parents, teachers, students, school leaders, peak bodies and independent experts as appropriate, as well as government and non-government education authorities.