

HSC minimum standard

Information for parents and carers



What is the HSC minimum standard?

From 2020, students in NSW must meet a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy to be eligible for the HSC credential.

The HSC minimum standard is set at Level 3 of the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF).

ACSF is a nationally agreed set of standards, endorsed by federal and state education ministers.

The HSC minimum standard is a practical level of reading, writing and numeracy used in everyday life, for work and further study.

How do students meet the minimum standard...

HSC 2020

Students have 2 pathways to meet the minimum standard:

1. attained a band 8 in Reading, Writing and Numeracy in the 2017 year 9 NAPLAN tests.
2. sit the Reading, Writing and Numeracy minimum standards online tests.

HSC 2021 and beyond

Students will meet the minimum standard by sitting the HSC minimum standard online tests in Reading, Writing and Numeracy and attaining a level 3.

HSC minimum standard tests

There are three separate 45 minute online tests

Reading Test – 45 multiple choice questions

Numeracy Test – 45 multiple choice questions

Writing Test – one response based on a choice from two prompts of up to 500 words

Students are able to access demonstration and practice tests to help them prepare.

Students can only attempt each test twice in a calendar year in years 10, 11 and 12

Sample Reading test questions

1.

Which is the correct punctuation to complete the sentence?

That's amazing

- !
- ?
- :
- ,

Sample Reading test questions

Which word is not needed in this sentence?

A towbar is used to attach together a trailer to a car.

- used
- attach
- together
- to

Sample Reading test questions

8.

Which pull-down menu would I use if I wanted to see the basic storyline of a movie that is screening at my local cinema?

- Synopsis
- Buy tickets
- Session times
- Consumer advice

Sample Reading test questions

Which sentence uses the word *fold* as a noun?

- She cut the paper along the fold.
- The doors can fold back to make one large room.
- When you fold your arms it often expresses anger.
- I am going to fold the cloth before putting it in the cupboard.

Sample Numeracy test questions

Four friends are playing a video game. Their final scores are shown below.

Name	Score
Dan	87 778
Sue	78 877
Marie	87 088
Peter	78 788

Who has the highest score?

- Dan
- Sue
- Marie
- Peter

Sample Numeracy test questions

Fred notices that it is a quarter to five in the afternoon. He tries to find this time on a train timetable which is written in 24-hour time.

How would this time be written on the timetable?


- 04.45
- 05.25
- 16.45
- 16.75

Sample Numeracy test questions

A music clip was 4:00 minutes long.



If the music clip was paused at 40%, what time (in minutes and seconds) should be shown in the box?

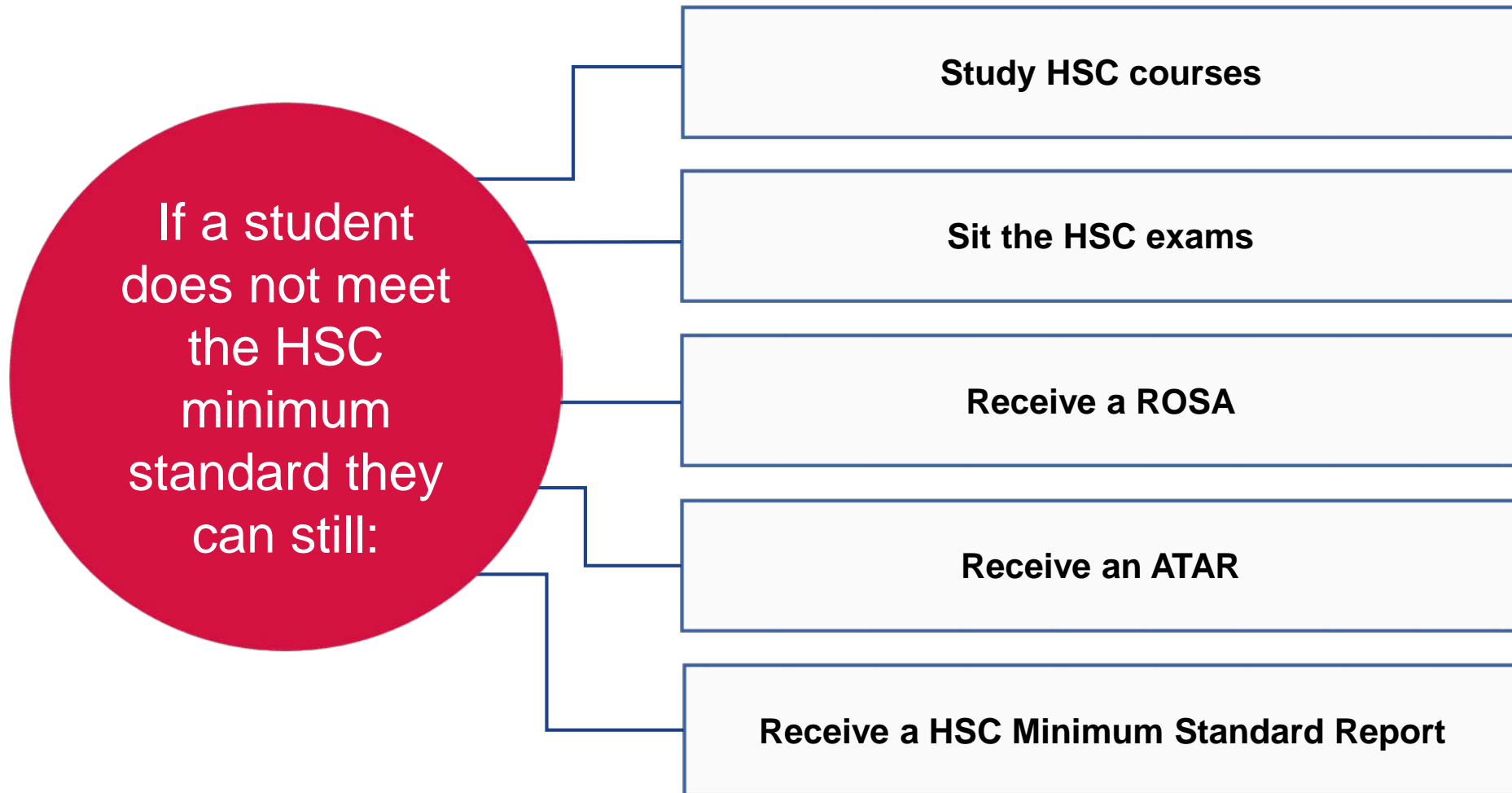
 Calculator

- 1:00
- 1:36
- 2:00
- 2:24

Test provisions

- Students with additional learning needs may be eligible to access test provisions.
- NESA will provide disability provisions for students who require Braille tests.
- Parents should contact the school if they seek more information.

What if a student does not meet the standard?



Certification

HSC Minimum Standard Report

Minimum Standard Test Report



Minimum Standard Reading

Test3 Test

of

Clarence High School (NOT REAL SCHOOL)

sat the Minimum Standard Reading test on 8 March 2018 and demonstrated achievement at

Level 3

Individuals performing at this level typically:

- comprehend everyday texts in familiar and some less familiar contexts
- recognise the distinguishing features of common types of texts
- locate, integrate and interpret information in detailed written material, charts, diagrams and tables
- identify some implied meanings and make simple inferences
- recognise common expressions, and understand that words may have different meanings in different contexts
- compare information from different sources, and use strategies to predict the meaning of unknown words
- use punctuation such as apostrophes and quotation marks as an aid to understanding

Level 3 is the minimum standard required for a student to be eligible for the NSW Higher School Certificate

Student Number: 32515932

Issued by NSW Education Standards Authority without alteration or erasure on 8 March 2018 at Sydney, NSW, Australia

Minimum Standard Reading Test Report

Test3 Test

of

Clarence High School (NOT REAL SCHOOL)

sat the Minimum Standard Reading test on 8 March 2018, and demonstrated achievement at

Level 3

Level 4
Individuals performing at this level typically comprehend written texts of relative complexity including those incorporating visual information. They understand distinguishing features of different types of texts, and use inference and an understanding of symbolism to interpret texts. They identify ways in which a writer uses structure, language and tone to create a particular message. They extract, analyse, compare and synthesise information from a variety of sources including tables and charts. They use punctuation effectively as an aid to understanding.

Level 3 (Minimum standard)
Individuals performing at this level typically comprehend everyday texts in familiar and some less familiar contexts. They recognise the distinguishing features of common types of texts. They locate, integrate and interpret information in detailed written material, charts, diagrams and tables. They identify some implied meanings and make simple inferences. They recognise common expressions, and understand that words may have different meanings in different contexts. They compare information from different sources, and use strategies to predict the meaning of unknown words. They use punctuation such as apostrophes and quotation marks as an aid to understanding.

Level 2
Individuals performing at this level typically comprehend simple texts in predictable contexts. They locate specific information and identify the main idea in short, clear written material. They compare information from different sources, and provide simple interpretations. They recognise the difference between formal and informal language in familiar texts, and understand that the meaning of words and phrases may change in different contexts. They understand instructions in words and diagrams. They use strategies to identify unknown words and predict their meaning in simple sentences. They use familiar vocabulary and basic punctuation, such as capital letters and commas, as an aid to understanding.

Level 1
Individuals performing at this level typically comprehend simple, brief texts in highly familiar contexts. They locate specific information in simple diagrams, tables or maps, and interpret visual information in written material. They make links between pieces of information, and follow simple written or pictorial instructions. They recognise common signs, symbols and abbreviations. They recognise high frequency words and use a limited range of strategies to understand unfamiliar words. They use basic punctuation as an aid to understanding.

For further information on the HSC minimum standard, including resources for developing literacy and numeracy skills, go to the NSW Education Standards Authority website

Level 3 Minimum Standard Definition

Individuals performing at this level typically comprehend everyday texts in familiar and some less familiar contexts.

- Recognise the distinguishing features of common types of texts.
- Locate, integrate and interpret information in detailed written material, charts, diagrams and tables.
- Identify some implied meanings and make simple inferences.
- Recognise common expressions, and understand that words may have different meanings in different contexts.
- Compare information from different sources, and use strategies to predict the meaning of unknown words.
- Use punctuation such as apostrophes and quotation marks as an aid to understanding.

HSC minimum standard pathways for students

HSC 2020

Student	Action	Eligible for credential
Achieved band 8 in NAPLAN 2017 in Year 9 in Reading, Writing and Numeracy.	No minimum standard test required.	HSC ROSA
Did not achieve band 8 in NAPLAN 2017 in 1, 2 or 3 of the following areas- Reading, Writing or Numeracy.	Students only have to sit the online HSC minimum standard test for the areas that they did not achieve band 8 in NAPLAN. Students can have up to 5 years from the start of the HSC to re-sit the minimum standard tests to achieve level 3 in Reading, Writing and Numeracy. Student then achieves level 3 in Reading, Writing and Numeracy.	HSC ROSA Minimum Standard Report
Did not achieve Band 8 in NAPLAN 2017 in 1, 2 or 3 of the following areas – Reading, Writing and Numeracy. Does not achieve Level 3 in the HSC minimum standard online tests.	Students only have to sit the online HSC minimum standard tests for the areas that they did not achieve band 8 in NAPLAN. Students can have up to 5 years from the start of the HSC to re-sit the minimum standard tests to achieve level 3 in Reading, Writing and Numeracy.	ROSA Minimum Standard Report If studying an ATAR pattern of study students can still receive ATAR and offer to university.
Does not qualify for HSC due to ‘N’ determination or ineligible pattern of study.	Sits the minimum standard tests to attain a Minimum Standard Report.	ROSA Minimum Standard Report
Leaves school when 17, before the end of Year 12.	Sits the 3 minimum standard tests to attain a Minimum Standard Report.	ROSA Minimum Standard Report
Leaves school when 17.	Does not sit any of minimum standard tests.	ROSA

HSC minimum standard pathways for students

HSC 2021 and beyond

Student	Actions required	Eligible for credential
Achieves Level 3 in the HSC minimum standard tests (reading, writing, numeracy) before end of Year 12.	Students only have to demonstrate they have met the standard once. Students can choose an ATAR or non ATAR pattern of study in the HSC.	HSC ROSA Minimum Standard Report
Achieves Level 3 in one or two HSC minimum standard tests before the end of Year 12.	Students can have up to 5 years from the start of the HSC to sit the 3 HSC minimum standard online tests to achieve Level 3.	ROSA Minimum Standard Report If studying an ATAR pattern of study, students can still receive ATAR and offer to university.
Does not qualify for HSC due to 'N' determination or ineligible pattern of study.	Sits the 3 HSC minimum standard online tests to attain a Minimum Standard Report.	ROSA Minimum Standard Report
Leaves school when 17, before the end of Year 12.	Sits the 3 HSC minimum standard online tests to attain a Minimum Standard Report.	ROSA Minimum Standard Report
Leaves school when 17.	Does not sit any of the HSC minimum standard tests.	ROSA