

MEDIA RELEASE

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FAIR COMPARISONS: *MY SCHOOL* WEBSITE RELEASED FOR 2015

The 2015 update of data on the *My School* website (www.myschool.edu.au) has been released today by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) and includes results from the 2014 National Assessment Program – literacy and numeracy (NAPLAN) tests.

ACARA's Chair, Professor Barry McGaw, says: "*My School* contains a set of quality data that schools, teachers, parents and the wider community can use to help ensure that every child in every classroom receives a high quality education".

Professor McGaw says that *My School* allows for fair comparisons to be made between schools with similar students.

"*My School* allows for comparisons of results from schools with students from similar socio-educational backgrounds using the index of community socio-educational advantage (ICSEA) scale. ICSEA enables fair comparisons to be made between schools with similar students," says Professor McGaw.

ICSEA is the level of the school's educational advantage and is calculated using information about parents' occupation, parents' education, school geographical location and the proportion of Indigenous students at the school. A school's ICSEA value represents the level of the educational advantage of the school's students.

The 2015 *My School* release contains:

- the latest (2014) profile and population data on each school
- outcomes from the 2014 round of NAPLAN testing
- seven years of performance data for comparison
- student attendance data based on Indigenous status
- a refreshed look and feel
- the latest financial figures on each school, including capital expenditure and sources of funding.

The value of the *My School* website was reiterated in recent research undertaken by Colmar Brunton, which has also been released today by ACARA.

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