

## Aide Memoire: Update on literacy and numeracy assessments after the first two days

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<b>To:</b>	Hon Erica Stanford, Minister of Education
<b>From:</b>	Dr Grant Klinkum, Chief Executive
<b>Date:</b>	21 May 2024
<b>Reference:</b>	OC00866

### Purpose

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1. This aide memoire reports on early progress for the first two days of the literacy and numeracy assessments.

### Update

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2. The first literacy and numeracy co-requisite assessment event for 2024 commenced on 20 May. Schools and kura have entered around 65,000 students for approximately 195,000 assessments over a two-week window.
3. Over the past two days, nearly 32,500 assessments have been completed on the digital assessment platform (the platform).
4. Today we had 19,928 students participate in the literacy and numeracy assessments. This was scheduled to be one of our busiest days on the platform.
5. As you will be aware, we are using a new version of the platform that has more capacity than the version used in 2023. We are pleased to say that there have been no issues with the platform performance either today or yesterday.
6. Schools have been supportive of our request to stagger access and there have been no more than 1,000 students logging in per minute – considerably below the 6,000 per minute that the system can now manage.
7. While the capacity of the system is running at considerably higher levels than current demand, we are continuing to adopt a cautious approach until the new version of the platform has fully proven its reliability.
8. On the first day, there were two minor technical issues that required follow up.
9. In following up a fix to one of the issues, the English labelling on a timeline in the first question in the numeracy assessment was inadvertently replaced with te reo Māori. While the text of the question was in English, the timeline was needed to answer part (a) of the question. Most students would have been able to answer the question correctly with the numerical information in the timeline.
10. The assessment has been updated for tomorrow and schools and kura that participated today (101 schools and kura with 5,242 students) have been informed that the use of te

reo Māori on the timeline was inadvertent and the marking schedule will ensure no student is disadvantaged.

11. We are aware of one principal who assumed that the use of te reo Māori on the timeline was deliberate and was concerned about that. We have communicated directly with the principal concerned.
12. We will provide a further briefing note at the end of this week to summarise week one progress and any issues that have arisen.



Dr Grant Klinkum  
Chief Executive, NZQA

21 May 2024



Hon Erica Stanford  
Minister of Education

30/06/24