

Aide-Memoire: Summary update of the Literacy and Numeracy assessments

To:	Hon Erica Stanford, Minister of Education
From:	Dr Grant Klinkum, Chief Executive
Date:	31 May 2024
Reference:	OC00885

Purpose

1. This aide memoire is to provide you with a summary update of the Literacy and Numeracy corequisite assessments since our update on Tuesday 21 May [OC00866 refers].

Update

- 2. As previously advised, the first literacy and numeracy co-requisite assessment event for 2024 commenced on 20 May and ran until 31 May.
- 3. Schools and kura entered approximately 86,000 students for 195,000 assessments (65,250 literacy-reading; 63,400 literacy-writing and 66,350 numeracy) over the two-week window.
- 4. By 2pm Friday 31 May, 74,360 students from 422 schools and kura had completed 161,827 assessments (54,685 literacy-reading; 51,689 literacy-writing; and 55,453 numeracy). The completed assessments represent 82.5% of the entries for this assessment window.
- 5. A total of 280 students from four schools in the Realm countries (Cook Islands and Niue) also participated in the assessment event this week.
- 6. As noted in our earlier report, we used the new version of the digital platform that has more capacity than the version used in 2023. We have not experienced any capacity issues over the two-week assessment window.
- 7. Overall, the assessments were successfully delivered with only minor localised issues experienced. We worked with schools to rectify them swiftly and students were able to complete the assessments.
- 8. On Wednesday last week, we started receiving reports of a few students being locked out where they had navigated away from the assessment. This is part of our breach detection and management process. When they logged back in; students could not see their previous responses and were concerned that their work had been lost. Upon investigation, we confirmed that student responses had been saved. This issue was resolved by the next day. We have established processes for managing issues presenting in this way to ensure all student evidence is considered in the marking process.

- 9. We have been closely monitoring and recording the assessment platform and navigation activities by students and administrators over the two-week period. A small number of Principals' Nominees raised concerns earlier this week, that changes made to reduce the number of notifications to supervisors also meant that the level of monitoring by NZQA had reduced. We have reassured schools that this is not the case.
- 10. Results for the first literacy and numeracy co-requisite assessments will be released in the week beginning 5 August 2024. We will provide you with a briefing prior to results release.
- 11. Te Reo Matatini¹ and te Pāngarau co-requisite assessments will commence on 10 June. Schools and kura have entered around 740 students for approximately 1,300 assessments over the two-week assessment window.

Dr Grant Klinkum

Chief Executive, NZQA

31 May 2024

Hon Erica Stanford

Minister of Education

¹ Te reo torohū (reading) and te reo whakaputa (writing)