

Summary of Changes to the 2026 Key Dates Year Planner

1. 01 April:
 - 'First data file submission due (include as many learner enrolments, courses and entries as possible)' updated to – 'First data submission due'.
 - 'Data file submissions for entries into event 1...' updated to – 'Data submission of entries into event 1...'.
 - Deleted 'NZQA starts to process entry and result data files'.
2. 01 May:
 - 'Data file submission due' updated to – 'Data submission due (for schools that must manually trigger their SMS to synchronise with NZQA)'.
3. 02 June:
 - 'Data file submission due' updated to – 'Data submission due (for schools that must manually trigger their SMS to synchronise with NZQA)'.
4. 01 July:
 - 'Data file submission due' updated to – 'Data submission due (for schools that must manually trigger their SMS to synchronise with NZQA)'.
 - 'SAC provisions' updated to 'SAC entitlements'.
5. 23 July:
 - Translated papers - '...correctly flagged for 1 August data file' updated to - '...correctly flagged in submitted data by 1 August'.
 - 'Check 1 August file...for SAC learners' updated to – 'Check submitted data...for SAC learners by 1 August'.
6. 03 August:
 - 'Data file submissions for entries into event 2 of Literacy and Numeracy and Te Reo Matatini me te Pāngarau due' updated to – 'Entries into event 2 of Literacy and Numeracy and Te Reo Matatini me te Pāngarau must have been included in submitted data'.
 - 'Data file submissions for external entries due used to calculate...' updated to - 'External entries must have been included in submitted data, as they are used to calculate...'.
7. 07 August:
 - Replaced by 'Verify the accuracy of externally assessed entries ahead of the 1 September deadline for NZQA preparing personalized exam materials and calculating fees for international learners'.
8. 21 August:
 - Deleted 'Date nominations for Literacy and Numeracy assessment event 2 due'.
9. 01 September:
 - 'Data file submission due – deadline to submit entries...' updated to –

‘Deadline for data submissions of entries...’.

10.01 October:

- Deleted – Data file submission due – include all confirmed entries into internally assessed standards and entries assigned to courses

11.02 November:

- ‘Data file submission due – include all derived grades for Unexpected Events and send any additional learner information in this file’ updated to – ‘Data submission due (for schools that must manually trigger their SMS to synchronise with NZQA) – include all derived grades for Unexpected Events’.
- Added ‘Visual Arts Level 3 and Scholarship submissions due’.

12.01 December:

- ‘Final data file submission for 2026 – include all final verified internally assessed results and derived grades at scale for an Unexpected Event. This file is the last opportunity to correct any remaining errors and warnings’ updated to - ‘Finalise data submissions to NZQA for enrolments or external assessment entries, including derived grades for Unexpected Events. Note: DO NOT enter leaving date and reason on your year 13 students’.
- Deleted ‘DO NOT WITHDRAW learners’.

13.03 December:

- ‘Data file submission links close at midnight (entry and result file processing ends). No further 2026 data files can be uploaded to NZQA after 11:59pm’ updated to - ‘Provider ability to change enrolments or external assessment entries through SMS data submission or web entries close. This includes the ability to submit derived grades for Unexpected Events’.
- Deleted ‘Web Entries Schools’ access restrictions start’.

14.10 December:

- Deleted.

15. Legend at the bottom of the year planner:

- ‘Data files should be submitted by the 1st of each month from April to December. Data files can be submitted more than once a month.’ updated to – ‘Enrolment, entry and result data should be submitted to NZQA by 1 April and then updated at least once a month through till early December. From early December till the following February only internal entries and results will be submittable.’