



**GEELONG GRAMMAR SCHOOL®**  
EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION

Thursday 5 December 2019

**Media Statement re: NAPLAN in response to query from the *Geelong Advertiser*.**

**Geelong Grammar School was the best performing Year 5 school in the State over the past five years of NAPLAN results.**

We don't believe that tests of any kind should be defeating or defining.

As a nation, we should want a schooling system that thrives on effective diagnostic tools, not for pigeonholing learners and shaming school communities, but for identifying where and how support needs to be applied.

This approach not only promotes equity, it is ingenuity in action; you can't offer a "fair go" unless every learner, through their schooling and education, is equipped to have choices in their lives. Choices are enabled through being willing and able to select pathways beyond secondary school; ones that cannot be predicted by postcodes but are available because as a nation we prioritise the professional learning and ongoing development of teachers.

With regard to NAPLAN; Geelong Grammar School's holistic philosophy embeds functional literacy and numeracy skills across our educational programme. We want our learners to have optimised their literacy and numeracy skills, and to have also been nurtured artistically, athletically, emotionally, intellectually, morally, socially and spiritually. We want them to have the confidence and the capacity to be challenged.

The focus of holistic education isn't just literacy and numeracy; it is gifting children and adolescents the opportunity to develop mastery across twenty-first century capabilities. The focus is on developing the whole child; being responsive to diverse learning styles and cultivating each teachers' ability to source the evidence and have differentiated prescriptions at hand.

**Rebecca Cody**

Principal

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**Principal's Study**

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