



## **Catholic schools deliver sustained NAPLAN improvements**

Catholic school students in Western Australia have again demonstrated significant improvement in literacy and numeracy results since last year's NAPLAN test as well as sustained improvement over the last seven years in almost all assessments.

The results clearly indicate West Australian Catholic school students have maintained or improved their literacy and numeracy results both in absolute terms and relative to the performance of students across the rest of the country.

The most notable improvements were seen in Year 3 in reading, writing, spelling, punctuation and numeracy. Improvements were also made in Year 5 spelling, numeracy and writing and Year 9 numeracy.

It is particularly noteworthy to acknowledge the significant improvement demonstrated by students who have been identified as academically at risk in our system. In 2015 less than 2% of the students who sat the secondary numeracy test, fell below the national minimum standard, the lowest figure in seven years.

Executive Director Dr Tim McDonald acknowledged the contribution of Principals and classroom teachers to this year's results.

"Catholic Education has a sustained system wide focus on school improvement and today's NAPLAN results reflect that focus. The improvement in results can be directly attributed to the leadership provided by our Principals and the efforts and energies of our teachers and school staff.

As a system we continue to learn from our data which clearly indicates that the longer a student receives a Catholic education, the better their results in standardised testing. This is a very powerful endorsement of the impact a quality Catholic education has on the students of WA," said Dr McDonald.

Catholic Education will continue to work to sustain the improvements that have been achieved in 2015, particularly for those students who have been identified as academically at risk. We remain committed to a sustained focus on literacy and numeracy and to finding avenues to support and extend gifted students in our classes.

