

28 February 2019

Australian Schools Competitions - OPTIONAL REACH/ICAS ASSESSMENTS

Our school partners with UNSWGlobal to offer their annual ICAS Assessments. These assessments are optional and in no way endorsed by the school or Department of Education. This year, there have been major changes made by the test provider to the assessments, as well as the purpose, administration, format and accessibility of these tests. In 2019, UNSWGlobal have introduced Reach annual progression assessments which provide an external, objective benchmark of learner progress. These tests remain in a paper-based format, with downloadable certificates of achievement issued. The REACH assessments are designed to identify the students who will benefit most from sitting the online ICAS assessments. As the ICAS assessments are developed to recognise and reward academic excellence for high potential students, only students who achieve in the top 10% of the REACH assessments will be invited to sit the ICAS tests. These online ICAS tests will be conducted later in the year, with more information provided for eligible students. Throughout the assessment process, we will be evaluating the new procedures and relevance of these assessments for our students and using this data to inform future decisions around the appropriateness of administering external (non DoE) assessments.

Each REACH assessment will be *conducted at 7:50 am on the morning of the allocated test day.* As these assessments are *optional*, it is a school decision to administer them before school to reduce disruption to the teaching day and the number of teaching hours lost. Information on the rooms for each test will be communicated closer to the assessment days.

Students must sit for the test according to the scholastic year they are currently in. **This year, applications for Year 2 students will be completed at the same time as Stages 2 and 3**. The details of the tests and costs are outlined below. Please circle the assessments that you would like your child to participate in on both sections of this sheet and <u>keep this section for your records</u>.

REACH Assessment	,	YEAR	(ple	ase c	ircle)	DATE	COST
Digital Technologies	n/a	3	4	5	6	Wednesday 8 May	\$9.50
Science	2	3	4	5	6	Tuesday 28 May	\$9.50
Writing	n/a	3	4	5	6	Wednesday 19 June	\$18.50
Spelling	2	3	4	5	6	Thursday 20 June	\$12.50
English	2	3	4	5	6	Thursday 1 August	\$9.50
Mathematics	2	3	4	5	6	Wednesday 7 August	\$9.50

Please note these REACH assessments are <u>optional</u>. If you do wish for your child to participate, please complete the section below and return it, together with the correct money, sealed in an envelope, clearly labelled and placed in the money collection box in the office door. Last day for payment is Thursday 14 March 2019. The office money slot <u>will be cleared at 3.30 pm</u> and online payments must be made <u>prior to 5 pm</u>. No payments will be accepted after these times and any money received after the closing will be returned.

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COMPETITION (please tick)	YE	AR (pleas	e circ	le)	DATE	COST
Digital Technologies	n/a	3	4	5	6	Wednesday 8 May	\$9.50
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Name of parent/carer making this payment: