

NAPLAN Online with iPad

April 2017

Apple and Online Assessment

Apple builds powerful tools for learning that, along with engaging educational content, provide an immersive environment for teaching and learning. As schools embrace iPad, they are increasingly using iPad for student assessment purposes. Many administrative tools are available to help schools manage and configure iPad for daily use and for online assessments. This paper discusses how iPad is a fully supported platform for online summative assessments including NAPLAN Online.

Online Assessments in Education

Online assessments are becoming more commonplace throughout much of K–12 education. NAPLAN will move online from 2017 – over a two, to three-year period. The devices used for online assessment must be able to be configured to meet all testing requirements. iPad is a powerful tool for daily learning and it can seamlessly invoke the device restrictions necessary for testing, making iPad the ideal choice for student learning and assessment.

NAPLAN Online

With the introduction of online national assessments, iPad is playing a central role in assessing student academic achievement. Schools that rely on iPad to support daily learning can also use iPad to deliver NAPLAN Online. The NAP app allows students to securely participate in online assessments administered by the National Assessment Program (NAP) which includes NAPLAN Online.



Configuring iPad for Assessment

Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) requires that students be locked to a single assessment app on the device they are using for NAPLAN Online in order to prevent them from switching apps or changing device settings, thereby invalidating test results.

Automatic Assessment Configuration

With iOS 9.3.2 and later, assessment providers can automatically lock and configure any iPad, either school or family owned, with Automatic Assessment Configuration. This feature allows approved assessment developers to build apps that will invoke required assessment restrictions when the app is launched. Automatic Assessment Configuration is the ideal method for administering assessment on iPad, as it requires no device supervision or MDM administration. When using an app with Automatic Assessment Configuration, the app will lock the iPad into the assessment app. Additionally, the apps will automatically disable the following five features while the app is running:

- · Autocorrect and spell checker
- · Predictive keyboard
- · Dictionary definition lookup
- · Keyboard shortcuts
- · Universal Clipboards
- Dictation
- Sharing



Restrictions not enabled

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Restrictions enabled

Classroom

Classroom is a powerful new app for iPad that helps teachers guide learning, share work, and manage student devices. It supports both shared and one-to-one environments. You can launch and lock a specific assessment app, website, or textbook page on any device in the class. If you want to use Classroom for assessments, refer to the Classroom help page to understand all of the requirements, features and limitations of using Classroom to administer assessments.

Learn more about Classroom.

Note: If using Classroom app to manage iPad and using Classroom to launch an assessment app that uses Automatic Assessment Configuration, the "Lock in app after opening" feature will override Automatic Assessment Configuration and therefore should not be used.

Design and Usability

iPad is a powerful learning tool for daily formative assessment in the classroom, while also providing the flexibility to securely administer summative assessments. This capability gives students the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and subject-matter mastery on the same device they use for daily learning.

Keyboards

iPad incorporates an onscreen keyboard that can be adapted by app developers to support specific purposes. For example, custom onscreen keyboards can present students with special foreign language characters or math symbols.

NAPLAN Online permits the use of a touchscreen keyboard. If physical keyboards are desired for any portion of an assessment, the preferred options are certified "Made for iOS" wired keyboards, as well as Apple's Smart Keyboard—available for both the 9.7-inch and the 12.9-inch iPad Pro.

Screen resolution and display size

All 9.7-inch and larger iPad devices meet the technical requirements for NAPLAN with a minimum display of 1024-by-768 pixels. iPad mini devices feature a 7.9-inch display and do not meet the requirements set by ACARA.

Data Security and Student Privacy

When administering online assessments, it is important to understand the policies relating to data security and student privacy of both the device and the app being used. Check with your assessment provider to review policies for managing data and protecting student privacy to ensure that the app adheres to state and national requirements.

At Apple, security and privacy are fundamental to the design of iPad. Apple does not track, share, or sell student information for advertising or marketing purposes —or build profiles based on student email content or web browsing. Powerful safeguards are built into all devices, operating systems, apps and services—including Managed Apple IDs, which are kept under the administration of your district. So the security, privacy, confidentiality and integrity of student information is always protected.

Learn more about Apple's commitment to privacy.

Conclusion

iPad is a powerful device for enhancing the teaching and learning experience. With features built into iPad, such as support for Automatic Assessment Configuration, iPad is also an ideal device to support a wide variety of online assessments, including NAPLAN Online. The ability to complete assessments on the same device used for daily learning helps provide students with a familiar experience to demonstrate their knowledge during an important part of the school year.

As online assessment grows and evolves, Apple will continue to work with assessment providers, schools, and school officials at the local, state and national levels to help transition Australian K–12 education successfully to new online assessments.

Additional Resources

Learn more about Apple's resources for IT and Deployment.

For more information on how to supervise or manage your devices with MDM, see the Education Deployment Guide.

For detailed iOS Deployment and Reference information, see the iOS Deployment Reference.

To configure assessment-specific restrictions for spell check, autocorrection, grammar check, and dictionary lookup when not using AAC, see Spelling and definition lookup restrictions for iOS. (Note: Restricting dictionary lookup will disable the sharing feature.)

For More Information

For more information or assistance, contact your local Apple Education representative or call 1300-551-927.

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