

From:
Assistant Principal Trina Coburn

I am both an employee and a parent of DECS. I am very passionate about public education but over the past 20 years have seen the value and importance of public education slip.

This is particularly so when public schools do often get the lower end of students and to be compared to so called 'like' schools is a nonsense. When a small remote school of 43 students is compared to a Private school in Sydney's CBD of over a 1000 students, it makes a mockery of the whole thing.

NAPLAN tests are ok IF they do not have so much emphasis placed on them. It is good to get an idea where students are with their Literacy and Numeracy and provide the support they may need. But when a school is told at the end of the year explain your NAPLAN results as part of the schools self review, I find it frustrating. That day so many variables could have been a contributing factor to those results. Give the test in a weeks time and they may do very well. Lets use it as snapshot and not the only thing analysed as so many schools do.