

From:  
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NAPLAN gives detailed feedback on students' learning in Literacy and Numeracy. It indicates which skills require attention.

One shortcoming is that it doesn't cater for students who can't read: the 'growth' in a student who can't read in year 3 will show up as 'no growth' if they still can't read in Year 7, regardless of any other progress they have made.

The 'growth' at Bonalbo Central School was quite good. Should we expect such good growth at, say, James Ruse, where all the students are accomplished to start with? How much better should we expect them to do?

I don't believe NAPLAN was designed to rank schools, but that's what it's being used for. Not all the information generated by NAPLAN is released on the myschool website, so it cannot be argued that all NAPLAN information must be made public. However, someone has chosen to present certain information and present it in a certain form.

It would be valid and easy enough to present some different information in a different form. A myschool NAPLAN report on Farnuckle High could go, 'Students at Farnuckle High achieved well in spelling, punctuation and fractions and would benefit from more work on synonyms, making inferences and the number line.' Such a report would actually tell the public more while safeguarding against league table-ism.