

Appendix C:

Audit scope and method

Scope of this audit

Who we examined

We examined the following agency:

Agency	Their key responsibilities
Department of Education	<p>The department operates government primary and secondary schools. In the context of literacy and numeracy outcomes, the department's responsibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">raising learning, development, engagement and wellbeing outcomes for all Victorian studentsmonitoring achievement outcomesproviding data literacy support for school leaders to interpret performance data (such as NAPLAN)monitoring and reporting Education State targets, learning, development, engagement and wellbeing outcomes for all Victorian students.

Our audit objective

To determine whether the Department of Education is improving literacy and numeracy achievement outcomes for all Victorian government school students.

What we examined

We examined:

- whether the department understands all domains of literacy and numeracy achievement outcomes for Victorian government school students
- how the department defines, monitors and reports literacy and numeracy achievement outcomes for Victorian government school students. This includes assessing whether the definitions of literacy and numeracy align with the Victorian Curriculum
- whether achievement outcomes have improved for all Victorian government student subgroups across all domains of literacy and numeracy.

Conducting this audit

Assessing performance

To form our conclusion against our objective we used the following lines of inquiry and associated evaluation criteria.

Line of inquiry	Criteria
1. Does the department understand the literacy and numeracy outcomes for all Victorian government school students?	<p>1.1 The department has defined literacy and numeracy outcomes that include all domains of literacy and numeracy as per the Victorian Curriculum.</p> <p>1.2 The department's monitoring and reporting allows it to understand and report literacy and numeracy outcomes for all students.</p>
2. Has the department improved the literacy and numeracy achievement outcomes for all Victorian government school students?	2.1 Achievement outcomes have improved for all Victorian government school student subgroups across all domains of literacy and numeracy.

Our methods

As part of the audit we:

- performed multi-level modelling to model government school students' learning (from year 3 to year 9) for various subgroups in each NAPLAN domain
- performed similar modelling on teacher judgement scores.

We did these analyses using data supplied by the department and ACARA.

Refer to Appendix E: Modelling of student outcomes for details.

Compliance

We conducted our audit in accordance with the *Audit Act 1994* and ASAE 3500 *Performance Engagements* to obtain reasonable assurance to provide a basis for our conclusion.

We complied with the independence and other relevant ethical requirements related to assurance engagements.

Cost and time

The full cost of the audit and preparation of this report was \$290,000.

The duration of the audit was 7 months from initiation to tabling.