



Australian Islamic College of Sydney

33 Headcorn Street, MT DRUITT, NSW 2770 A.B.N: 60 085 245 245

TEL: (02) 9677 2613 FAX: (02) 9677 2648

Email: info@aics.nsw.edu.au Website: www.aics.nsw.edu.au

17th May 2017

Dear Parents / Guardians

Assalam-u-alaikum,

You may or may not be aware that from 2020, students in NSW must meet the minimum standard of literacy and numeracy to be eligible for the HSC credential in Year 12. Achievement in Year 9 NAPLAN from 2017 onwards will provide students, parents and schools with valuable information about how students are tracking towards meeting the minimum standard for HSC. Students will pre-qualify for the minimum standard for HSC if they achieve Band 8 or above in Year 9 NAPLAN reading, writing and numeracy tests. This pre-qualifying is part of a broader NSW Government strategy to boost student literacy and numeracy across the state.

The AICS board have responded to the introduction of these standards by NSW Government and aim to support students in Primary School to attain pre-qualification when they reach Year 9. This is being done through their ongoing support of initiatives in Primary School to bring better literacy and numeracy outcomes for AICS students.

These initiatives include:

- Full-time Teacher Aide staff in Kindergarten for at least the first six months of schooling.
- Targeted Intervention for identified students in Literacy and Numeracy across K-Year 5 at specified times throughout the school year. Two Full-time teachers are allocated to this program.
- Introduction of Full-time Learning Support in Year 6. One Full-time teacher is allocated to this, working in partnership with the Secondary School Learning Support Coordinator.
- Participation in K-3 ongoing professional development in a project for Early Literacy Instruction, in partnership with the Association of Independent Schools NSW, NGS Superannuation and Dymock's Children's Charities.
- Introduction of Prime Maths, a program consisting of approaches used by the three top-performing nations in primary mathematics education.

The AICS board have also supported the introduction of more rigorous year level standards for achievement, particularly in English and Mathematics. Included in these year level standards will be an increased level of monitoring of student achievement from Year 3 to Year 6. This means that students who attain lower than a 'C' or Satisfactory standard in subjects of English and/or Mathematics will be identified and parents contacted. This process will be effective from Term 3, 2017. Identified students will be provided additional differentiated support within the schools' available resources and parents will be encouraged to seek additional support.

From 2018, students in Year 5, identified as achieving below minimum standard for NAPLAN will be placed on a probationary enrolment. Additional support will be provided to these students, along with an expectation that parents will provide additional support outside of hours to help their child improve.

From 2018, a cut off exam for Year 6 students will be introduced, whereby students who attain below a 'C' or Satisfactory standard will not be permitted to enrol in Year 7 AICS Secondary School. This exam is being introduced to help make sure that students do not enter AICS Secondary without the basic literacy and numeracy skills for success in life, and the capacity to communicate their ideas effectively.

The AICS board, Principal and staff are committed to working with you and your children to achieve their best. We expect and appreciate your support to work with us, helping your child to succeed in life.

Wassalam

Dr Imam Ali
Principal

Mr Cameron Warne
Assistant Principal (Primary)