Janison.

NAPLAN Online allows educators to tailor essential teaching for Australian students.

The annual *National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)* examinations run by the *Australian Curriculum and Reporting Authority (ACARA)* are the measure through which governments, education authorities and schools can determine whether Australian pupils are meeting important educational outcomes.

In 2015, Janison was selected to build the national NAPLAN Online assessment platform for ACARA, an independent statutory authority that works to improve the learning of all young Australians through world-class school curriculum, assessment and reporting.

The Brief

Janison was asked to transform the pen-and-paper NAPLAN exam into a digital assessment, NAPLAN Online, offering a more engaging test experience for students, deeper insights for teachers and faster turnaround of results. The first event was to run in 2018, and by the end of the project, be delivered to more than 1.2 million students across Australia.

The Challenge

The platform needed to be robust enough to handle enormous volumes of students concurrently, without slowdowns or interruption. In peak testing periods, where thousands of students are being tested at the same time, transaction rates and data stored by the platform during such periods is similar in nature to the loads that are processed by applications such as Facebook. The platform also needed to be impenetrable by overseas hack attempts and other bad actors.

> "We've now shown that a platform of our scale can work in the assessment space and we've now started to gain confidence among the international community, including government, financial and corporate institutions."
>
> Janison spokesman

680,000

students completed NAPLAN Online over three weeks in May 2019

2.6M+

individual tests were completed and submitted in 2019

1.2M

students across Australia will use the NAPLAN Online platform by the end of the project

Our Solution

Janison designed NAPLAN Online to provide improved assessment, more precise results and faster turnaround. With results delivered at speeds incomparable to pen-and-paper methods, teachers can address learning gaps sooner.

Developed using _Microsoft Azure_, we designed the platform with performance, security and resilience top of mind. The platform was stress-tested to handle up to 400,000 concurrent users.

We also designed NAPLAN Online to allow adaptive testing. This provides students with questions that better test their individual ability to ensure more precise assessment, meaning teachers are provided with much more detailed insights.

In addition, the question authoring possibilities that exist within a digital medium allowed for a richer, more engaging test experience for students compared with static pen-and-paper tests.

The Result

In a world-first, in May 2018, the platform successfully delivered the NAPLAN Online assessment to 1,400 schools with a total of 200,000 school students over a nine-day assessment window nationwide – a major assessment event that received worldwide recognition for Janison.

In May 2019, Janison successfully delivered NAPLAN Online with more than 2.6 million tests completed and submitted over a three-week period. Approximately 680,000 students, from Years 3, 5, 7 and 9, across Australia accessed NAPLAN Online. Despite some schools experiencing disruptions due to local connectivity issues, our platform performed well and did not require any adjustments during the testing period.

By the end of the project, the platform is expected to deliver NAPLAN Online to 1.2 million students in Australia in more than 12,000 schools.

Speaking during the NAPLAN Online roll-out in 2018, Janison's then Head of Operations Sandy MacDonald said: "Our NAPLAN Online platform performed well in 2018 in the face of several challenges. Our tech team at Janison successfully met these challenges in terms of data concurrency and reliability, and ensuring that data all comes back through. We have created a world-first in the delivery of a comprehensive online assessment program.

"We've now shown that a platform of our scale can work in the assessment space and we've now started to gain confidence among the international community, including government, financial and corporate institutions. We have a world-wide focus with this platform, including many universities and large organisations in the UK, Canada and China."

Transition your pen-and-paper exams to online today.

Visit janison.com/online-assessment or assessment@janison.com

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