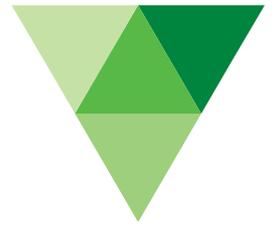


NCEA | Taumata Mātauranga ā-Motu Kua Taea

NCEA Review 2018

NCEA online

1. A brief history of NCEA
2. Themes in NCEA literature
3. Purpose and outcome statements for NCEA
4. Trends in NCEA
5. Levels of NCEA
6. Connections with pathways into further education and/or employment
7. Course coherence in NCEA
8. Non-standards based learning and NCEA
9. Māori medium and NCEA
10. Literacy and numeracy requirements for NCEA
11. Accessing NCEA
12. Over-assessment and its impact on students and teachers
- ▶ **13. NCEA online**
14. How NCEA is recognised overseas
15. Quality assurance in NCEA



NZQA requires each qualification registered on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework to be regularly reviewed so that the qualification remains useful and relevant and continues to meet the needs of the learners, industry and stakeholders for which it was developed. NCEA is scheduled to be reviewed by December 2018.

This paper describes NZQA's initiatives and progress towards offering NCEA | Taumata Mātauranga ā-Motu Kua Taea¹ assessment online.

Focusing question

What changes (if any) need to be made to the current structure of NCEA assessment to effectively support the progression towards online assessment?

Online assessment (including examinations) provides opportunities to significantly transform the NCEA assessment system. NZQA's goal is to offer NCEA external assessment online, where appropriate, by 2020.

Students are increasingly undertaking their learning in a digital environment. The current external assessment system, using mainly paper-based examinations, does not reflect the way students learn today or employers' needs in the 21st century.

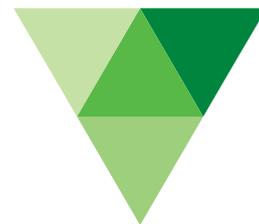
Digital assessment can enhance a student's experience and streamline activities for a school/kura. While it cannot replace good teaching, technology has the potential to enhance the learning experience and improve access to a wide range of high-quality education activities.

What has been achieved so far?

Since 2014, NZQA has partnered with schools/kura who have chosen to pilot (where examination results can count towards NCEA) or trial (practice examinations) digital assessment. These pilots and trials allow NZQA, along with schools/kura, to understand and learn from digital assessment. So far, digital examinations have been introduced at level 1, and in 2017 some online examinations will be offered at level 2.

NZQA began offering online assessment with standards where teaching and learning is currently digitally enabled or where digitising the material improves the student's experience.

¹ Taumata Mātauranga ā-Motu Kua Taea is the Māori name for NCEA. "NCEA" is inclusive of both Māori and English medium.



Online assessment also provides an opportunity for assessment at any time – moving away from the current high stakes end-of-year assessment. This allows students to demonstrate their learning at a time and a place that suits them. It could also reduce the risks for schools/kura and students that are associated with assessment occurring over a period of a few weeks at the end of the year. NZQA is also supporting schools/kura and teachers by enabling them to moderate internally assessed standards online, which will reduce the feedback loop and save time.

Many schools/kura are keen to take up these opportunities. In 2015, 17,000 students from 237 secondary schools/kura participated in online digital assessments (over 50% of all secondary schools, including the Mathematics Common Assessment Task (MCAT), which has a large number of candidates). In 2016, NZQA trialled the online digital assessment of 10 more standards and piloted three assessments, with 4,386 students participating from 93 schools/kura. It also trialled the digital assessment of two of the unit standards that contribute to the literacy and numeracy requirements for NCEA. By the end of 2017, approximately 30,000 students from approximately 350 schools/kura will have taken part in online digital assessment opportunities.

Where to next?

1

Over time, NZQA will progressively offer online assessment of NCEA at all levels. This will mean some standards may need to be updated to provide opportunities for meaningful digital assessment.

What are the relevant criteria to enable meaningful digital assessment against the standards?

The student's experience is paramount, and NZQA will continue to use the learning from trials and pilots to inform changes to online assessment development and delivery.

How can online assessment of NCEA ensure all students are able to achieve to their potential and set themselves up on their personalised pathway to success?

2

Online assessment has the potential to help advance assessment practice and support students with the 21st century skills they need to succeed in further study and employment.

How could teaching practice change to make the most of these opportunities?