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**If the Federal  
Government won't  
protect students,  
teachers will.**

## Dear Parents

As teachers we understand how important assessment and reporting is to you.

It's your right to get accurate information on your child's progress and the effectiveness of their school.

But we also know the damage that can be done when information on students and schools is misused.

When the Federal Government established the My School website in January, it published information on schools in a way that was both inaccurate and incomplete.

Misleading comparisons of schools were created that didn't even take into account school funding and resources.

Of greatest concern was that newspapers were allowed to take test data from the website and inappropriately rank schools in league tables.

No matter how much progress schools had made with their students, the ones with low average results were judged as failures.

Being branded in that way hurts students and school communities.

It also makes it harder to improve the quality of education in our schools.

## Why We Must Act

We have repeatedly tried to get the Federal Government to do two things:

1. Protect students and school communities from the damage caused by league tables, and
2. Improve the My School website so it provides meaningful and accurate information for parents.

**Unfortunately**, the government has refused to heed the concerns of the profession.

Faced with the choice of doing nothing or protecting students, we have decided to act.

Our decision is that we will not deliver the national NAPLAN tests in May unless the government addresses the profession's concerns.

No other test, student assessment or reports will be affected.

If the government won't protect students, we will.

Sincerely,

Teachers and Principals