



## EDUCATION NATIONAL STANDARDS

# LIFTING ACHIEVEMENT IN OUR SCHOOLS

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### INTRODUCING NATIONAL STANDARDS

One child in five leaves school without the basic skills they need to succeed in a modern economy. National is determined to boost literacy and numeracy and lift achievement in our schools. We want every child to have the best possible start to life, to reach their full potential, and have a bright future.

Last election, we promised to establish National Standards to combat under achievement in schools. We have delivered on that promise. National Standards is a crucial part of our plan to make sure children learn the basics at school, and build a brighter future for New Zealand.

### HOW DO NATIONAL STANDARDS WORK?

- National Standards are clear signposts that show what children in Years 1-8 should be able to achieve in reading, writing, and maths, and by when.
- Schools must report back to parents in plain language at least twice a year, showing their child's progress against the Standards.
- The Standards will identify those who are falling behind, so that teachers and parents can give them the extra support they need before it's too late.

### What this means for parents

Parents want clear answers to simple questions like:

- Is my child reading, writing, and doing maths at the expected level?
- Are they doing better than last year?
- Are they doing as well as others in class?

This is what National Standards delivers through clear, easy to understand, plain language reports.

### What if children are not performing?

Using National Standards, teachers track the progress of children in reading, writing and maths throughout the school year, and plan the next steps to lift student achievement. Every school is expected to support and work with its teachers to plan these next steps.

Parents are encouraged to meet with teachers to discuss how they can work together to raise the bar for their child. They can also ask their school what specific plans they have in place to help students who are not meeting the Standards.

### OUR NEXT STEPS

National is focused on lifting student achievement. We're targeting funding and support for children identified through National Standards as needing extra help.

#### New Intervention Programmes

\$36 million towards new intervention programmes for students who are identified by National Standards as needing extra support in reading, writing and maths.

#### Expert Help

At least 50 expert practitioners from the Ministry and education sector will work closely with targeted schools and teachers, to help raise the bar in education.

#### Improving Professional Development

The Ministry of Education is changing the way it delivers professional development for teachers and principals, to focus squarely on lifting student achievement.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit: [www.national.org.nz/education](http://www.national.org.nz/education)