



Merimbula Public School



OPTIONAL ICAS ASSESSMENTS FOR STUDENTS in YEARS 3 to 6

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

This year, Merimbula Public School will be offering students in Years 3-6 the opportunity to participate in one or more ICAS assessments. ICAS Assessments are comprehensive skills-based assessments that assess the higher order thinking and problem-solving skills of students.

ICAS is said to give us deep insight into our students' true capabilities and will help us plan more effectively their future years at school.

HOW ICAS IS DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHER ASSESSMENTS YOUR CHILD WILL TAKE:

1. ICAS can help us discover student talents and student weaknesses that don't always get picked up by the curriculum testing framework.
2. ICAS will not add extra workload to any student's study or homework regime because ICAS is an assessment they can't study for. It evaluates thinking and problem-solving ability, not memory.
3. ICAS's diagnostic reports will give all of us (teachers and parents) far more insight into your child's strengths and weaknesses. At school, we can act on that by tailoring our teaching and learning programs; at home, you will know where to direct more encouragement.
4. ICAS will also give us an external benchmark we can rely on to ensure our school is keeping pace with national and international standards—ICAS is the most comprehensive international assessment program, with schools in over 20 countries participating in ICAS every year.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE AND PRIVACY NOTIFICATION:

If you would like your child to participate, please complete the permission slip and return it, with payment to the school no later than , **Friday August 9**. In order to analyse student results over time, we and UNSW Global collect and use data such as student names, year levels, student results, school results and contact details of school staff (ICAS Data). By permitting your child to sit ICAS, you consent to our and UNSW Global's use of the ICAS Data in the manner outlined below *. PLEASE NOTE LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Kind regards

Mrs Jenni Smith
School Coordinator

Ms Michelle Hulme
Principal

***Privacy notification:** UNSW Global stores, uses and modifies the ICAS Data in order to generate reports, conduct research and analysis, and improve its products and services. UNSW Global will not hold or use ICAS Data that constitutes personal information for longer than 15 years. As the parent or guardian of a student who intends to sit ICAS, you consent to the school collecting the ICAS Data that relates to the student, disclosing it to UNSW Global and to UNSW Global's use of it in the manner outlined above. You also consent to the school assigning this consent to UNSW Global.



2019 ICAS Permission Form – Merimbula Public School

Please return this form with your payment, to your school no later than Friday, August 9

Dear Mrs Smith,

I give permission for my child _____ of _____
Child's name *Class*

to participate in the following 2019 ICAS assessments. I also understand that they are voluntary and that if my child is absent their participation fee is non-refundable.

Please select the subjects you would like your child to participate in:

Subject/Paper	Official Sitting Date	Participation Fee <i>(incl. GST)</i>	Fee Enclosed
Science	5 September 2019	\$14.50	
Spelling	12 September 2019	\$14.50	
English	17 September 2019	\$14.50	
Mathematics	19 September 2019	\$14.50	
TOTAL			

Students must sit on the official sitting date for each subject to be eligible for UNSW medals.

Name of Parent/Guardian

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian