



MCEETYA Performance Measurement and Reporting Taskforce

Data Implementation Manual

for Enrolments for the 2007
School Year

NATIONAL GOALS FOR SCHOOLING

COLLECTION OF INFORMATION ON STUDENT
BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

For Use by Schools, School Systems and Testing Agents

Second edition

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of the 2007 manual

This manual provides information to assist schools and school systems to collect student background information as required by Education Ministers. The purpose is to enable nationally comparable reporting of students' outcomes against the National Goals for Schooling in the Twenty-First Century.

It involves the collection of information on students':

- sex;
- Indigenous status;
- socioeconomic background; and
- language background.

The manual describes what is involved and what it means in practical terms for schools, school systems and testing agents.

In brief, schools and school systems need to collect background information on relevant students using agreed questions. The resulting information is then supplied to testing agents so that it can be linked with students' test forms.

The process of collecting student background information from parents began in 2005. The original edition of this manual, *Data Implementation Manual for Enrolments for the 2005 and 2006 School Years*, was prepared to assist schools and systems in implementing collection of student background data. 2005 was regarded as a transition year with States, Territories and non-government schools being able to collect data via student test forms if it was not possible to implement collections from parents. However, Ministers agreed that from 2006 these data items were to be collected from parents.

The 2007 edition of the manual is to be used by schools and school systems when enrolling students for the first time in the 2007 school year or when collecting information, via special data collection forms, on those students who are involved in national testing in 2007.

1.2 How will the information be used?

As previously, the relevant background data will be linked to students' national literacy and numeracy test forms at Years 3, 5, and 7 and to the test forms of students selected to participate in national sample assessments at Year 6. The information will then be used to report performance data by agreed categories at the State level in the annual National Report on Schooling in Australia (ANR).

National Assessment Program – Literacy and numeracy testing

In light of the introduction of full cohort Year 9 literacy and numeracy testing across Australia from 2008, all schools will be required to have background information on Year 9 students collected from parents according to the agreed definitions available from 2008 onwards. It is therefore strongly recommended that all schools and school systems implement the collection of the agreed information during 2007 so that it will be available for use for Year 9 testing in 2008. This requirement is particularly pertinent to those States and Territories where secondary schooling commences at Year 8, and where secondary schools may not previously have been involved in the collection of student background data according to the agreed definitions.

National Assessment Program – triennial sample assessments

In 2007, a sample of Year 6 students will be selected to participate in the National Assessment Program (NAP) – civics and citizenship education, 2007. The NAP – civics and citizenship

education assessment also involves Year 10 students, but background information on those students will be collected from the students themselves, via the test forms.

Schools will be notified well in advance if they have been selected for participation in the NAP – civics and citizenship, 2007. Schools may wish to wait until they know whether they have been selected in the sample testing before deciding whether to collect information from parents of students selected.

More information on the programme of assessments is provided in Attachment 2.

1.3 Who should use the manual?

Within schools and school systems the manual will be used by people who are involved in the:

- design of enrolment forms and enrolment processes;
- collection of information from parents;
- design, maintenance or modification of student information storage and retrieval systems;
- updating of student records; and
- school-level management or coordination of literacy, numeracy and national sample testing.

The manual also provides information for testing agents, (i.e. the organisations that conduct the assessments), software providers and Boards of Studies. In some cases, State education authorities are the testing agents.

Not all schools will need to use this manual. In large systems, for example, implementation is a central responsibility.

Because implementation began in 2005, most systems and schools will already have implemented the new definitions. However there are potentially new users, as outlined below. The *Introduction* section of this manual has therefore been designed with two broad sets of users in mind.

- Schools and schools systems which have already implemented the changes to their data collection processes, and who therefore need only to note minor updates – see section 1.3.1 below; and
- New users, who need to implement collections for the first time – these are most likely to be either
 - New independent schools coming into operation in 2007 or
 - Secondary schools which have not as yet implemented the changes and wish to collect information so that it will be available for use for Year 9 testing in 2008.

These users should refer to section 1.3.2 below.

1.3.1 Existing Users

For existing users, the principal update that needs to be noted is that the ABS has released an updated version of the Australian Standard Classification of Languages coding index as set out in [Attachment 6](#). It provides the most up-to-date classification against which to code the information, provided by parents, on languages spoken at home. Schools and school systems need to ensure that, information on languages spoken at home collected for the first time for a student in 2007 is coded in accordance with the updated coding index as set out in [Attachment 6](#).

However, existing data that has already been collected and coded to the previous classification does not need to be updated for national reporting purposes.

1.3.2 New Users

Those schools and school systems which have not yet implemented the collection of student background information using the agreed questions and response categories as contained in Section 3 of this manual, will need to take the steps set out in Section 2.2 in order to amend enrolment forms and data collection processes.

1.4 How is implementation managed in your sector?

Government sector:

- The implementation has been managed at central level. In most cases, implementation has already occurred. However, in some jurisdictions there may be a need to implement collections in secondary schools in order to obtain the necessary information on Year 9 students in 2008.

Catholic sector:

- In diocesan/systemic schools, implementation has been managed at diocesan level.
- In non-diocesan/non-systemic schools, implementation has varied across States and Territories. Please consult with your Catholic Education Office if required.
- In both cases, there may be a need to implement collections in secondary schools in order to obtain the necessary information on Year 9 students in 2008.

Independent sector:

- Implementation in this sector has occurred at either the individual school level or at the systemic level where groups of independent schools are organised on a systemic basis eg Seventh Day Adventist schools. In both cases there may be a need to implement collections in secondary schools in order to obtain the necessary information on Year 9 students in 2008.

1.5 Updates of the manual

This manual will be updated on a regular basis with the latest version available on the [MCEETYA website](#). The title of the manual will set out the school year(s) for which the manual is relevant. This version is valid for the 2007 school year.

1.6 Privacy requirements

Schools and school systems should review and, if necessary, revise their privacy policies and related documentation providing advice to parents on the collection, storage, use and disclosure of personal information. Such information should be distributed to parents with enrolment or special data collection forms, reproduced in the school's or school system's privacy policy as well as any other relevant documents and, if appropriate, provided on associated websites.

For the non-government sector: please note that a comprehensive *Privacy Compliance Manual* is available. This document was developed jointly by the National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) and the Independent Schools Council of Australia (ISCA) with the assistance of Minter Ellison Lawyers. It provides advice for non-government schools and school systems on compliance with Commonwealth privacy legislation by private sector organisations. It also includes advice on obtaining parents' consent to the collection and use of personal information and examples of standard collection notices. The *Privacy Compliance Manual* is available on the NCEC and ISCA websites.

Please note that for the purposes of nationally comparable reporting, schools and school systems are not required to seek updated information from parents once the information has been collected according to the agreed questions and response

formats. However, there may be a requirement under privacy legislation that such data has to be updated.

1.7 Help for schools

Government sector

Within the government sector, your primary contact is as follows:

New South Wales Govt contact:	Juho Looveer NSW Department of Education and Training Phone: (02) 95618192 Email: Juho.Looveer@det.nsw.edu.au
Victoria Govt contact:	Susan Dennett Department of Education and Training Phone: (03) 96372175 Email: susan.dennett@edumail.vic.gov.au
Queensland Govt contact:	Corporate Data Enquiries Education Queensland Phone: (07) 3237 0760 Email: CorporateData.PERFMEAS@qed.qld.gov.au
South Australia Govt contact:	Tassi Georgiadis Department of Education and Children's Services Phone: (08) 8226 1478 Email: Georgiadis.Tassi@saugov.sa.gov.au
Western Australia Govt contact:	John Harris Department of Education and Training Phone: (08) 9264 4668 Email: John.Harris@det.wa.edu.au
Tasmania Govt contact:	Andrew Oakley Department of Education Tasmania Phone: (03) 6233 2012 Email: andrew.oakley@education.tas.gov.au
Northern Territory Govt contact:	Patrick Burford NT Department of Employment, Education and Training Phone: (08) 89995743 Email: bruce.dunn@nt.gov.au
Australian Capital Territory Govt contact:	Matthew Hardy Department of Education and Training Phone: (02) 6205 5511 Email: matthew.hardy@act.gov.au

Catholic sector

Within the Catholic sector systemic schools can contact the local Catholic Schools Office or Catholic Education Office for further information. Non-systemic Catholic schools can contact the State/Territory Catholic Education Commission.

Independent sector

Within the Independent sector you can contact your State or Territory Association of Independent Schools (AIS) representative.

Independent Sector:

New South Wales:	Ray Whitfield The Association of Independent Schools of New South Wales Ltd Phone: (02) 9299 2845 Email: aisnsw@aisnsw.edu.au
Victoria:	Peter Roberts Manager, Compliance Frameworks Association of Independent Schools of Victoria Inc Phone: (03) 9825 7211 Email: peter.roberts@ais.vic.edu.au
Queensland:	David Robertson Assistant Director (Operations) Independent Schools Queensland Phone: (07) 3228 1515 Email: drobertson@aisq.qld.edu.au
South Australia:	Brian Simons Assistant Director Administration Services Association of Independent Schools of SA Phone: (08) 81791406 Email: simonsb@ais.sa.edu.au
Western Australia:	Keva Crouch Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia Inc. Phone: (08) 9441 1614 Email: kcrouch@ais.wa.edu.au Ron Gorman Phone: (08) 9441 1620 Email: rgorman@ais.wa.edu.au
Tasmania:	Tony Crehan The Association of Independent Schools of Tasmania Phone: (03) 6224 0125 Email: aist@tassie.net.au
Northern Territory:	Kath Phelan Association of Independent Schools of the Northern Territory Inc. Phone: (08) 8981 8668 Email: admin@aisnt.asn.au
Australian Capital Territory:	Executive Director Association of Independent Schools of the ACT Inc. Phone: (02) 6162 4955 Email: aisact@ais.act.edu.au

2. ACTIONS REQUIRED

2.1 Key steps for existing users

For schools and school systems that have already collected information in accordance with the question formats contained in the 2005–06 manual, the only change that needs to be addressed is the update to the ABS's Australian Standard Classification of Languages coding index.

Schools and school systems need to ensure that information on languages spoken at home that is collected for the first time for a student in 2007 is coded in accordance with the updated coding index as set out in [Attachment 6](#).

Some existing users may be collecting information from secondary students for the first time.

Attachment 1A provides a checklist for those schools or school systems which have already implemented the necessary changes but need to take account of ABS's updated listing of language classifications and related indexes.

2.2 Key steps for new users

The key steps for schools or school systems implementing the data collection for the first time are as follows:

- Revise enrolment forms to ensure the forms incorporate the agreed questions and use the exact wording of the agreed questions.
- Alternatively, using the exact wording of the agreed questions, develop special data collection forms to collect the background information on students participating in the literacy, numeracy or national sample testing.
- Ensure information has been obtained from testing agents on the agreed process for providing student background information to the testing agents to enable them to link this with the test data.
- Revise the data storage system for student records to include fields for the new enrolment data on students' background characteristics.
- Collect and store the necessary student background data.

Further details are provided below. A checklist of tasks associated with these key steps is shown in Attachment 1B.

2.2.1 Changes to enrolment forms

Enrolment forms to include the agreed question modules set out in Section 3 of this manual (*Technical Specifications*). **To ensure consistency in national reporting, the question modules must be used as specified.**

In order for the testing agent to link students' test results to their background characteristics, an identifier for each student may need to be attached to both the background information and the test forms (see Section 2.3).

Attachment 3 provides two samples of how the question modules might appear on enrolment forms.

2.2.2 Use of special data collection forms

Until the necessary student background information is available via enrolment forms, it will need to be collected using special data collection forms for those students taking part in literacy, numeracy or national sample assessments.

To ensure consistency in national reporting, the special data collection forms must use the question modules as specified.

Attachment 3 provides two sample special data collection forms using the agreed question modules.

2.2.3 Information for testing agents

After each assessment is conducted, the testing agent(s) will need to link students' test results to their respective background characteristics. This will require schools or school systems to provide the background information to the testing agent in an agreed format.

In the case of the National Assessment Program (NAP) – civics and citizenship education 2007, the background information will be collected electronically, prior to the testing date, through a secure online student registration system (OSRS) developed specifically for this purpose. The consultant employed to undertake the assessment will advise school systems and schools how to provide the background information on the Year 6 students participating in the assessment.

2.2.4 Revising the data storage system for student records

Along with the required question modules, Section 3 provides guidance on how the responses should be coded and stored. The following details need to be checked:

- student data records include fields for all of the information specified in Section 3;
- the fields in electronic records meet the information system requirements specified in Section 3; and
- student background information is able to be retrieved in such a way that it can be linked to their test data by the testing agent, for example, by means of a suitable student identifier.

2.2.5 Collecting and storing the background information

It is important for national reporting to have data that is as accurate as possible and from as many parents as possible. Schools need to ensure that procedures for ensuring completion of enrolment forms or special data collection forms are carefully considered. For example, schools could provide information accompanying enrolment or special data collection forms. They will need to work with parents and have arrangements in place to follow up where forms are incomplete. In some cases, parents may need assistance in interpreting and answering some of the questions.

Processes need to be in place for entry and coding of data to computer files from enrolment or special forms so that they can be readily provided to or accessed by testing agents.

3. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

3.1 How to use this section

Section 3 sets out how information is to be collected, stored and reported for each of the four background characteristics:

- sex;
- Indigenous status;
- socioeconomic background; and
- language background.

Each background characteristic is defined in terms of one or more *data elements*.

The data elements contain one or more *question modules* depending on the number of persons from whom information is requested. The question module includes exact wording of both the question and the response options. In some cases, the question modules provide two question options. In those cases, the school or school system may choose between the two options.

Attachment 3 provides two samples of the special data collection forms which schools or school systems may wish to use, either as a model for the questions to be included on enrolment forms or as their own special data collection forms.

The following table summarises how the four background characteristics translate into data elements and question modules.

Background characteristic	Indicator	Data Elements	Question Modules	Information sought about
Sex		Sex	Single module	Student
Indigenous status		Indigenous status	Single module Two options provided	Student
Socioeconomic background	Socioeconomic background – education	Parental school education	Two modules	Parents/ guardians
		Parental non-school education	Two modules	Parents/ guardians
	Socioeconomic background – occupation	Parental occupation	Two modules	Parents/ guardians
Language background	Language background	Main language other than English spoken at home	Three modules Two options provided for each module	Student and parents/guardians
	Main language other than English spoken at home			
	Country of birth	Country of birth	Single module Two options provided	Student

The information in Sections 3.2 to 3.8 (one section for each data element) is set out in a standard format with the following common headings on the left hand side:

- *Definition* – provides a description of the data element.
- *Related Indicator(s)* – shows how the data element relates to the background characteristic.
- *Question Module* – sets out the relevant question(s) as they must appear on the enrolment form. In some cases more than one question option is offered. Where this occurs, schools/systems may select the option that suits them best.
- *Rules* – shows how responses should be coded.
- *Guide for Use* – indicates how responses are linked to relevant classifications in the Attachments.
- *Output Requirements* – sets out the form in which the school or school system is to record the data on each student for provision to the testing agent.
- *Information System Requirements* – shows the properties of the fields to be used in information storage and retrieval systems. For more information on the properties of the fields see Glossary.
- *Coding Structure* – lists the allowable codes for responses to the questions.
- *Information for the Testing Agent: Deriving the indicator* – shows how the testing agent will provide the information for the annual *National Report on Schooling*.

3.1.1 Rules and Principles

The following rules and principles govern the collection and coding of student background information:

- Schools need to adhere exactly to the question modules, response options, instructions and codes contained in the technical specifications. To change any of these in any way will affect the comparability of the information collected.
- Schools are not to override information given by the parent/guardian on an enrolment form. The data given by the parent/guardian should not be altered even if the data provided by the parent is known to be incorrect. This includes where the parent has chosen not to provide the information.
- Every effort should be made to contact the parent/guardian in order to obtain missing information on the enrolment form or to chase up a missing form.
- Where a parent/guardian does not provide a response to the question, and the information is still not obtained after efforts to follow up, the question is **not** to be left blank, it needs to be coded to the 'not stated' category. The school cannot provide the information for the parent even when it is known to the school.
- Once information is obtained from parents, it does not need to be updated unless schools choose to do so for their own purposes, or there is a requirement under privacy legislation applicable to the State/Territory or sector that it be updated.

3.2 Technical specifications – Sex

Definition:	'Sex' is the distinction 'male' and 'female', as reported by a person.
Related Indicator(s):	'Sex' of student is required to report on student's performance by male and female.
Question Module:	For the collection of data on 'Sex' the following question module should be used: Sex: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Guide for Use:	'Sex' is regarded as the physical and biological distinction between male and female. It is not the socially expected/perceived dimensions of behaviour associated with male and female (masculinity and femininity).
Output Requirements:	The following output code needs to be recorded for each student and provided to the testing agent as and when required: 1 Male 2 Female
Information System Requirements:	It is necessary to store 'Sex' data that will enable output according to the following: Form of representation: Code Datatype: Numeric character Size of data element values: 1 Permissible data element values: Code values represented in the 'Sex' classification.
Coding Structure:	'Sex' is a flat classification having only one level with the two categories 'male' and 'female'. The code structure is simply: 1 Male 2 Female
Information for the Testing Agent:	'Sex' of student is to be reported by male and female.

3.3 Technical specifications – Indigenous status

Definition: A student is considered to be 'Indigenous' if he or she identifies as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin. The term 'origin' is considered to relate to people's Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent and for some, but not all, their cultural identity.

Related Indicator(s): 'Indigenous status' of the student is used to derive the Indigenous status indicator.

Question Module: One of the following questions should be used to collect 'Indigenous status':

Question Option One:

Is the student of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?

(For persons of both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin, mark both 'Yes' boxes.)

- No.....
Yes, Aboriginal.....
Yes, Torres Strait Islander.....

Question Option Two:

A response category for 'Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander' can be included if the data collection practices of the department/school system/school cannot accommodate more than one category being ticked at the same time. In that case, the following question can be used:

Is the student of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?

- No.....
Yes, Aboriginal.....
Yes, Torres Strait Islander.....
Yes, Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander.....

Rules: The 'Indigenous status' question allows for more than one response. The procedure for coding multiple responses is as follows:

- If the respondent marks 'No' and either 'Aboriginal' or 'Torres Strait Islander', then the response should be coded to either 'Aboriginal' or 'Torres Strait Islander' as indicated (i.e. disregard the 'No' response).
- If the respondent marks both the 'Aboriginal' and 'Torres Strait Islander' boxes, then the response should be coded to 'Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Origin'.

3.3 Technical specifications – Indigenous status continued

- If the respondent marks all three boxes ('No', 'Aboriginal' and 'Torres Strait Islander'), then the response should be coded to 'Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Origin' (i.e. disregard the 'No' response).

Where 'Indigenous status' is not stated or unknown, the code should be '9'.

Output Requirements:

The following output code needs to be recorded for each student and provided to the testing agent as and when required:

- 1 Aboriginal but not Torres Strait Islander Origin
- 2 Torres Strait Islander but not Aboriginal Origin
- 3 Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Origin
- 4 Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander Origin
- 9 Not stated/Unknown

Information System Requirements:

It is necessary to store 'Indigenous status' data that will enable output according to the following:

Form of representation:	Code
Datatype:	Numeric character
Size of data element values:	1
Permissible data element values:	All codes represented in the 'Indigenous status' classification. Where 'Indigenous status' is 'Not stated/Unknown' the code should be '9'.

Coding Structure:

'Indigenous status' has a hierarchical structure comprising two levels. There are four categories at the detailed level of the classification that are grouped into two categories at the broader level. The classification is as follows:

- 1 Indigenous
 - 11 Aboriginal but not Torres Strait Islander Origin
 - 12 Torres Strait Islander but not Aboriginal Origin
 - 13 Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Origin
- 2 Non-Indigenous
 - 24 Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander Origin
- 9 Not stated/Unknown

Only the second digit of the two-digit code needs to be used for data input and storage purposes. Responses should be coded to the appropriate category of the classification. For example '24 Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander Origin' would have an input code of '4'.

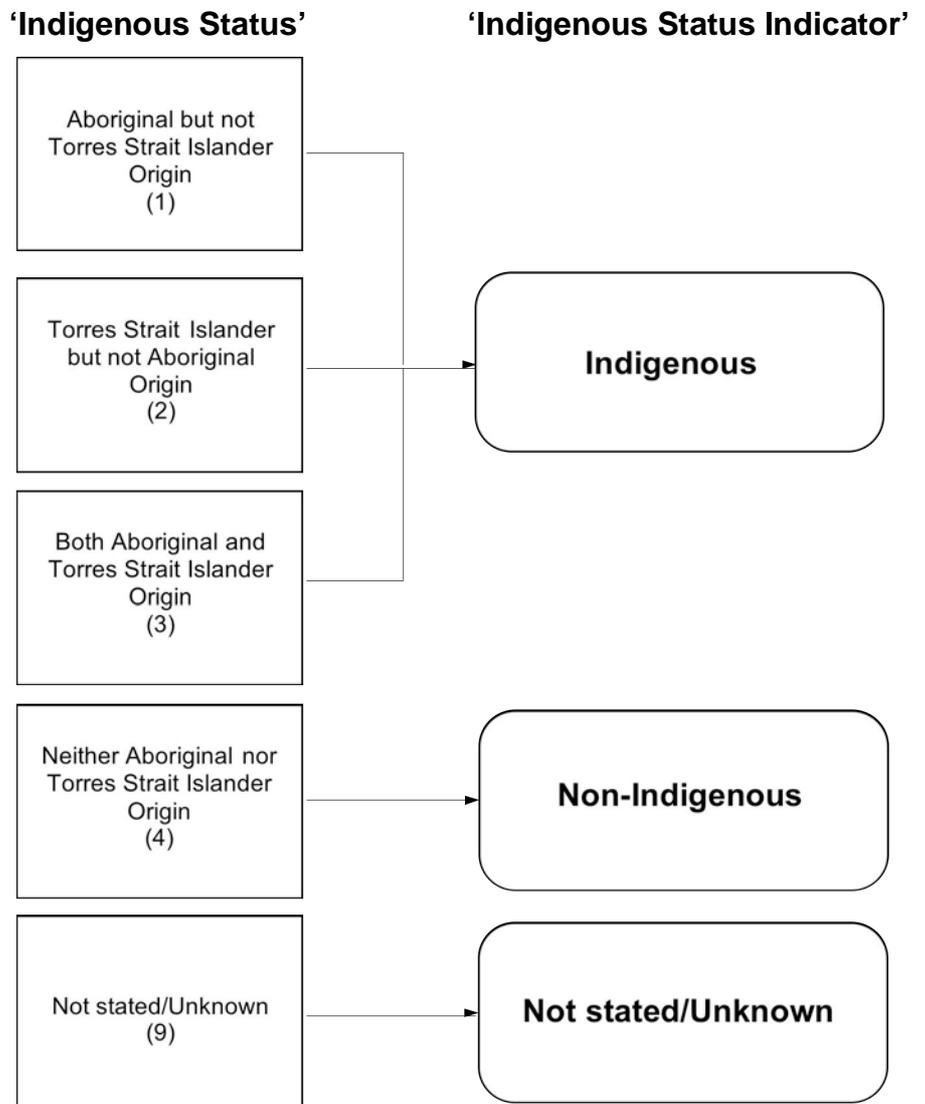
3.3 Technical specifications – Indigenous status continued

'Not stated/Unknown' 'Indigenous status' is to be uniquely represented in information management systems using the code '9'. **The 'Not stated/Unknown' category however is not to appear as an option for answering the question on forms (e.g. enrolment forms).**

Information for the Testing Agent: Deriving 'Indigenous Status Indicator'

For the purpose of nationally comparable reporting on student outcomes in the annual National Report on Schooling in Australia (see Glossary), the testing agent will be asked to provide tables on the learning outcomes of students including Indigenous students.

For the purpose of providing such tables, testing agents will need to recode the data provided to enable reporting of outcomes for Indigenous students and for non-Indigenous students, as illustrated in the following flowchart:



3.4 Technical specifications – Parental school education

Definition: 'Parental school education' is the highest year of primary or secondary education a parent/guardian has completed.

Related Indicator(s): 'Parental school education' of mother/parent1/guardian1 and father/parent2/guardian2 are required to derive the Socio-economic background – education indicator.

Question Module: For the collection of data on 'Parental school education' the following two question modules should be used:

What is the highest year of primary or secondary school the mother/parent1/guardian1 has completed?
(For persons who have never attended school, mark 'Year 9 or equivalent or below'.)

Mark one box only

Year 12 or equivalent.....

Year 11 or equivalent.....

Year 10 or equivalent.....

Year 9 or equivalent or below.....

What is the highest year of primary or secondary school the father/parent2/guardian2 has completed?
(For persons who have never attended school, mark 'Year 9 or equivalent or below'.)

Mark one box only

Year 12 or equivalent.....

Year 11 or equivalent.....

Year 10 or equivalent.....

Year 9 or equivalent or below.....

See Glossary for advice on the terminology to use for mother/father/parent/guardian.

Rules: For the purposes of this data element, school education means primary and secondary education, regardless of the location or institution where it is undertaken. It therefore includes study at a secondary education level that might, for example, be undertaken at a Technical and Further Education (TAFE) institution.

For the purposes of this data element, persons who have never attended school should be included in the 'Year 9 or equivalent or below' category.

3.4 Technical specifications – Parental school education continued

Output Requirements: The following output code needs to be recorded for each student and provided to the testing agent as and when required:

- 1 digit 'Parental school education' code for mother/parent1/guardian1; and
- 1 digit 'Parental school education' code for father/parent2/guardian2.

Information System Requirements: It is necessary to store 'Parental school education' data that will enable output according to the following:

Form of representation:	Code
Datatype:	Numeric character
Size of data element values:	1
Permissible data element values:	All relevant categories of the coding structure specified below.

Coding Structure: The coding structure for 'Parental school education' is:

4	Year 12 or equivalent
3	Year 11 or equivalent
2	Year 10 or equivalent
1	Year 9 or equivalent or below
0	Not stated/Unknown

**Information for the Testing Agent:
Deriving Socio-economic background – education indicator**

For the purpose of nationally comparable reporting on student outcomes in the annual National Report on Schooling in Australia (see Glossary), the testing agent will be asked to provide tables on the learning outcomes of students including their Socio-economic background – education.

For the purpose of providing such tables, the testing agent will need to combine 'Parental school education' data and 'Parental non-school education' to derive the Socio-economic background-education indicator. See 3.5 Information for the Testing Agent.

3.5 Technical specifications – Parental non-school education

Definition: 'Parental non-school education' identifies the highest qualification attained by a parent/guardian in any area of study other than school education.

Related Indicator(s): 'Parental non-school education' of mother/parent1/guardian1 and father/parent2/guardian2 are required to derive the Socio-economic background– education indicator.

Question Module: For the collection of data on 'Parental non-school education' the following two question modules should be used:

What is the level of the *highest* qualification the mother/parent1/guardian1 has completed?

- Mark one box only
- Bachelor degree or above.....
- Advanced diploma/Diploma.....
- Certificate I to IV (including trade certificate).....
- No non-school qualification.....

What is the level of the *highest* qualification the father/parent2/guardian2 has completed?

- Mark one box only
- Bachelor degree or above.....
- Advanced diploma/Diploma.....
- Certificate I to IV (including trade certificate).....
- No non-school qualification.....

See Glossary for advice on the terminology to use for mother/father/parent/guardian and for definitions on what constitutes Bachelor degree or above, Advanced diploma/Diploma and Certificate I to IV.

Rules: Primary and secondary education are not non-school qualifications, regardless of the location or institution where the study is undertaken. Secondary education undertaken for example as a mature-age student at a Technical and Further Education (TAFE) institution is considered school education. However non-school qualifications completed by parents/guardians when at school, e.g. Certificate I, should be included as non-school qualifications.

Output Requirements: The following output codes need to be recorded for each student and provided to the testing agent as and when required:

- 1 digit 'Parental non-school education' code for mother/parent1/guardian1; and
- 1 digit 'Parental non-school education' code for father/parent2/guardian2.

3.5 Technical specifications – Parental non-school education continued

Information System Requirements:

It is necessary to store 'Parental non-school education' data that will enable output according to the following:

Form of representation:	Code
Datatype:	Numeric character
Size of data element values:	1
Permissible data element values:	All relevant categories of the coding structure specified below.

Coding Structure:

The coding structure for 'Parental non-school education' is:

7	Bachelor degree or above
6	Advanced diploma/Diploma
5	Certificate I to IV (including trade certificate)
8	No non-school qualification
0	Not stated/Unknown

Information for the Testing Agent: Deriving Socio-economic background – education indicator

For the purpose of nationally comparable reporting on student outcomes in the annual National Report on Schooling in Australia (see Glossary), the testing agent will be asked to provide tables on the learning outcomes of students including their Socio-economic background – education.

For the purpose of providing such tables, the testing agent will need to combine 'Parental school education' data and 'Parental non-school education' data to derive the Socio-economic background-education indicator.

Therefore, the derivation requires the combination of Father's School Education (FSE), Mother's School Education (MSE), Father's Non-School Education (FNSE) and Mother's Non-School Education (MNSE) to determine a single value, the Socio-economic background – education indicator. In general, this will be the highest educational attainment of either parent, as shown in the following table.

Final decisions on reporting categories will be made when the requirements of the relevant annual National Report on Schooling (ANR) are settled.

3.5 Technical specifications – Parental non-school education continued

Derivation Conditions	Socio-economic Background – Education Indicator
1. FNSE = 8 MNSE = 8 FSE = 4,3,2,1,0 MSE = 4,3,2,1,0	Parental Education Indicator = highest response of FSE, MSE
2. FNSE = 8 MNSE = 7,6,5,0 FSE = 4,3,2,1,0 MSE = 4,3,2,1,0	Parental Education Indicator = highest response of MNSE, FSE, MSE
3. FNSE = 7,6,5,0 MNSE = 8 FSE = 4,3,2,1,0 MSE = 4,3,2,1,0	Parental Education Indicator = highest response of FNSE, FSE, MSE
4. FNSE = 7,6,5,0 MNSE = 7,6,5,0 FSE = 4,3,2,1,0 MSE = 4,3,2,1,0	Parental Education Indicator = highest response of FNSE, MNSE, FSE, MSE

Example 1: Where the Parental non-school education (father) response code is '6' and the Parental non-school education (mother) response code is '8', the Parental school education (father) is '4' and the Parental school education (mother) response code is '3', the derived Socio-economic background – education indicator code will be '6'.

Example 2: Where the Parental non-school education (father) response code is '0' and the Parental non-school education (mother) response code is '8', the Parental school education (father) is '0' and the Parental school education (mother) response code is '3', the derived Socio-economic background – education indicator code will be '3'.

Example 3: Where the Parental non-school education (father) response code is '8' and the Parental non-school education (mother) response code is '8', the Parental School Education (father) is '0' and the Parental school education (mother) response code is '0', the derived Socio-economic background – education indicator code will be '0'.

Example 4: Where the Parental non-school education (father) response code is '0' and the Parental non-school education (mother) response code is '0', the Parental school education (father) is '0' and the Parental school education (mother) response code is '0', the derived Socio-economic background – education indicator code will be '0'.

The coding structure for 'Parental non-school education', represented above by FNSE (Father's Non-School Education) and MNSE (Mother's Non-School Education) is:

7	Bachelor degree or above
6	Advanced diploma/Diploma
5	Certificate I to IV (including trade certificate)
8	No non-school qualification
0	Not stated/Unknown

The coding structure for 'Parental school education', represented above by FSE (Father's School Education) and MSE (Mother's School Education) is:

4	Year 12 or equivalent
3	Year 11 or equivalent
2	Year 10 or equivalent
1	Year 9 or equivalent or below
0	Not stated/Unknown

3.6 Technical specifications – Parental occupation group

Definition: 'Parental occupation group' is defined as the occupation group which includes the main work undertaken by the parent/guardian. If a parent/guardian has more than one job, report the occupation group which includes their main job.

Related Indicator(s): 'Parental occupation group' of mother/parent1/guardian1 and father/parent2/guardian2 are required to derive the Socio-economic background – occupation indicator.

Question Module: For the collection of data on 'Parental occupation group' the following two question modules should be used:

What is the occupation group of the mother/parent1/guardian1?

Please select the appropriate parental occupation group from the attached list.

- *If the person is not currently in paid work but has had a job in the last 12 months or has retired in the last 12 months, please use the person's last occupation.*
- *If the person has not been in paid work in the last 12 months, enter '8' above.*

What is the occupation group of the father/parent2/guardian2?

Please select the appropriate parental occupation group from the attached list.

- *If the person is not currently in paid work but has had a job in the last 12 months or has retired in the last 12 months, please use the person's last occupation.*
- *If the person has not been in paid work in the last 12 months, enter '8' above.*

3.6 Technical specifications – Parental occupation group continued

LIST OF PARENTAL OCCUPATION GROUPS

Group 1: Senior management in large business organisation, government administration and defence, and qualified professionals

Senior executive/manager/department head in industry, commerce, media or other large organisation.

Public service manager (Section head or above), regional director, health/education/police/fire services administrator

Other administrator [school principal, faculty head/dean, library/museum/gallery director, research facility director]

Defence Forces Commissioned Officer

Professionals generally have degree or higher qualifications and experience in applying this knowledge to design, develop or operate complex systems; identify, treat and advise on problems; and teach others.

Health, Education, Law, Social Welfare, Engineering, Science, Computing professional

Business [management consultant, business analyst, accountant, auditor, policy analyst, actuary, valuer]

Air/sea transport [aircraft/ship's captain/officer/pilot, flight officer, flying instructor, air traffic controller]

Group 2: Other business managers, arts/media/sportspersons and associate professionals

Owner/manager of farm, construction, import/export, wholesale, manufacturing, transport, real estate business

Specialist manager [finance/engineering/production/personnel/industrial relations/sales/marketing]

Financial services manager [bank branch manager, finance/investment/insurance broker, credit/loans officer]

Retail sales/services manager [shop, petrol station, restaurant, club, hotel/motel, cinema, theatre, agency]

Arts/media/sports [musician, actor, dancer, painter, potter, sculptor, journalist, author, media presenter, photographer, designer, illustrator, proof reader, sportsman/woman, coach, trainer, sports official]

Associate professionals generally have diploma/technical qualifications and support managers and professionals.

Health, Education, Law, Social Welfare, Engineering, Science, Computing technician/associate professional

Business/administration [recruitment/employment/industrial relations/training officer, marketing/advertising specialist, market research analyst, technical sales representative, retail buyer, office/project manager]

Defence Forces senior Non-Commissioned Officer

Group 3: Tradesmen/women, clerks and skilled office, sales and service staff

Tradesmen/women generally have completed a 4 year Trade Certificate, usually by apprenticeship. All tradesmen/women are included in this group.

Clerks [bookkeeper, bank/PO clerk, statistical/actuarial clerk, accounting/claims/audit clerk, payroll clerk, recording/registry/filing clerk, betting clerk, stores/inventory clerk, purchasing/order clerk, freight/transport/shipping clerk, bond clerk, customs agent, customer services clerk, admissions clerk]

Skilled office, sales and service staff.

Office [secretary, personal assistant, desktop publishing operator, switchboard operator]

Sales [company sales representative, auctioneer, insurance agent/assessor/loss adjuster, market researcher]

Service [aged/disabled/refuge/child care worker, nanny, meter reader, parking inspector, postal worker, courier, travel agent, tour guide, flight attendant, fitness instructor, casino dealer/supervisor]

Group 4: Machine operators, hospitality staff, assistants, labourers and related workers

Drivers, mobile plant, production/processing machinery and other machinery operators.

Hospitality staff [hotel service supervisor, receptionist, waiter, bar attendant, kitchenhand, porter, housekeeper]

Office assistants, sales assistants and other assistants.

Office [typist, word processing/data entry/business machine operator, receptionist, office assistant]

Sales [sales assistant, motor vehicle/caravan/parts salesperson, checkout operator, cashier, bus/train conductor, ticket seller, service station attendant, car rental desk staff, street vendor, telemarketer, shelf stacker]

Assistant/aide [trades' assistant, school/teacher's aide, dental assistant, veterinary nurse, nursing assistant, museum/gallery attendant, usher, home helper, salon assistant, animal attendant]

Labourers and related workers

Defence Forces ranks below senior NCO not included above

Agriculture, horticulture, forestry, fishing, mining worker [farm overseer, shearer, wool/hide classer, farm hand, horse trainer, nurseryman, greenkeeper, gardener, tree surgeon, forestry/logging worker, miner, seafarer/fishing hand]

Other worker [labourer, factory hand, storeman, guard, cleaner, caretaker, laundry worker, trolley collector, car park attendant, crossing supervisor]

3.6 Technical specifications – Parental occupation group continued

Rules: 'Parental occupation group' is used to derive the Socio-economic background – occupation indicator. It is necessary therefore to uniquely identify in the collection and storage processes (e.g. on student enrolment forms and in information management systems) the:

- 'Parental occupation group' of the mother/parent1/guardian1; and
- 'Parental occupation group' of the father/parent2/guardian2.

Output Requirements: The following output codes need to be recorded for each student and provided to the testing agent as and when required:

- 1 digit 'Parental occupation' code for mother/parent1/guardian1; and
- 1 digit 'Parental occupation' code for father/parent2/guardian2.

Information System Requirements: It is necessary to store 'Parental occupation group' data that will enable output according to the following:

Form of representation:	Code
Datatype:	Numeric character
Size of data element values:	1
Permissible data element values:	All relevant categories of the coding structure specified below.

Where the occupation group of the parent/guardian is not stated or unknown the code should be '9'.

Coding Structure: 'Parental occupation' is a flat classification having only one level with six categories. The code structure is simply:

- 1 Senior management in large business organisation, government administration and defence, and qualified professionals
- 2 Other business managers, arts/media/sportspersons and associate professionals
- 3 Tradesmen/women, clerks and skilled office, sales and service staff
- 4 Machine operators, hospitality staff, assistants, labourers and related workers
- 8 Not in paid work in last 12 months
- 9 Not stated or unknown

3.6 Technical specifications – Parental occupation group continued

**Information for the Testing Agent:
Deriving Socio-economic background – occupation indicator**

For the purpose of nationally comparable reporting on student outcomes in the annual National Report on Schooling in Australia (see Glossary), the testing agent will be asked to provide tables on the learning outcomes of students including their Socio-economic background – occupation.

For the purpose of providing such tables, the testing agent will need to compare 'Parental occupation group' data from the father and the mother to derive the Socio-economic background-occupation indicator. Based on the above code values for each of the mother/parent1/guardian1 and father/parent2/guardian2, the testing agent will determine the higher 'Parental occupation group'.

Therefore, the derivation requires the combination of Father's Occupation (FOCC) and Mother's Occupation (MOCC) to determine a single value, the Socio-economic background – occupation indicator. In general, this will be the lowest occupation response code of either parent. This is illustrated in the following table:

Derivation Conditions	Socio-economic Background – Occupation Indicator
1. FOCC = 9	Occupation Indicator = MOCC
2. FOCC = 8 and MOCC = 9	Occupation Indicator = FOCC
3. FOCC = 8 and MOCC = 8,4,3,2,1	Occupation Indicator = MOCC
4. FOCC = 4,3,2,1 and MOCC = 9,8	Occupation Indicator = FOCC
5. FOCC = 4,3,2,1 and MOCC = 4,3,2,1	Occupation Indicator = lowest response code of FOCC and MOCC

Example 1: Where the Parental occupation (father) response code is '4' and the Parental occupation (mother) response code is '1', the derived Socio-economic background – occupation indicator code will be '1'.

Example 2: Where the Parental occupation (father) response code is '9' and the Parental occupation (mother) response code is '1', the derived Socio-economic background – occupation indicator code will be '1'.

Example 3: Where the Parental occupation (father) response code is '9' and the Parental occupation (mother) response code is '8', the derived Socio-economic background – occupation indicator code will be '8'.

Example 4: Where the Parental occupation (father) response code is '8' and the Parental occupation (mother) response code is '8', the derived Socio-economic background – occupation indicator code will be '8'.

The categories to be used in reporting will be drawn from the six Socio-economic background – occupation indicator codes listed in the Coding Structure. Final decisions on exact reporting categories will be made when the requirements of the relevant annual National Report on Schooling (ANR) are settled.

3.6 Technical specifications – Parental occupation group continued

The coding structure for 'Parental occupation', represented above by Father's Occupation (FOCC) and Mother's Occupation (MOCC) is:

- 1 Senior management in large business organisation, government administration and defence, and qualified professionals
- 2 Other business managers, arts/media/sportspersons and associate professionals
- 3 Tradesmen/women, clerks and skilled office, sales and service staff
- 4 Machine operators, hospitality staff, assistants, labourers and related workers
- 8 Not in paid work in last 12 months
- 9 Not stated or unknown

3.7 Technical specifications – Main language other than English spoken at home

Definition: 'Main language other than English spoken at home' is defined as the main language other than English, spoken in the home by the respondent.

If the respondent speaks more than one language at home (not including English), report the language the respondent speaks most often.

Information is to be sought in relation to the student, mother/parent1/guardian1 and father/parent2/guardian2.

Related Indicator(s): 'Main language other than English spoken at home' is required to derive the 'Language background' and 'Main Language other than English spoken at home' indicators.

Question Module: 'Main language other than English spoken at home' can be collected in two ways.

Clear instructions, as provided below, must be included regarding the choice of only one language (the language spoken most often), other than English, when the respondent speaks multiple languages at home.

Question Option One:

For the collection of data on 'Main language other than English spoken at home' the following three question modules should be used:

Does the student speak a language other than English at home?

(If more than one language, indicate the one that is spoken most often.)

- | | | |
|------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| No, | English only..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Yes, | Italian..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Yes, | Cantonese..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Yes, | Arabic (incl. Lebanese)..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Yes, | Vietnamese..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Yes, | Greek..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Yes, | Mandarin..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Yes, | Tagalog – (Filipino)..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Yes, | Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Yes, | Macedonian..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Yes, | Other – please specify | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**3.7 Technical specifications – Main language other than English spoken at home
continued**

Does the mother/parent1/guardian1 speak a language other than English at home?

(If more than one language, indicate the one that is spoken most often.)

- No, English only.....
- Yes, Italian.....
- Yes, Cantonese.....
- Yes, Arabic (incl. Lebanese).....
- Yes, Vietnamese.....
- Yes, Greek.....
- Yes, Mandarin.....
- Yes, Tagalog – (Filipino).....
- Yes, Spanish
- Yes, Macedonian.....
- Yes, Other – please specify

Does the father/parent2/guardian2 speak a language other than English at home?

(If more than one language, indicate the one that is spoken most often.)

- No, English only.....
- Yes, Italian.....
- Yes, Cantonese.....
- Yes, Arabic (incl. Lebanese).....
- Yes, Vietnamese.....
- Yes, Greek.....
- Yes, Mandarin.....
- Yes, Tagalog – (Filipino).....
- Yes, Spanish
- Yes, Macedonian.....
- Yes, Other – please specify

Schools or school systems can choose to use either the above list; a list of the main languages spoken for their State/Territory provided at Attachment 5; or another list of main languages spoken developed by the school or school system. Regardless of the list of languages used, the question format must not be changed and the coding needs to be consistent with ABS standards.

Lists of main languages spoken for each State/Territory provided at Attachment 5 were derived using Census 2001 data for ‘Parents with students 5–19 years of age’.

3.7 Technical specifications – Main language other than English spoken at home continued

Question Option Two:

For the collection of data on ‘Main language other than English spoken at home’ the following three question modules should be used:

Does the student speak a language other than English at home?

(If more than one language, indicate the one that is spoken most often.)

No, English only.....
Yes, Other – please specify

Does the mother/parent1/guardian1 speak a language other than English at home?

(If more than one language, indicate the one that is spoken most often.)

No, English only.....
Yes, Other – please specify

Does the father/parent2/guardian2 speak a language other than English at home?

(If more than one language, indicate the one that is spoken most often.)

No, English only.....
Yes, Other – please specify

Question Option Two involves a more complex and time consuming coding process compared with the tick box layout of Question Option One, which is designed to enable direct coding of the majority of responses.

Rules:

The ‘Main language other than English spoken at home’ by the respondent is used to derive the ‘Language background’ and the ‘Main language other than English spoken at home’ indicators. It is necessary therefore to uniquely identify in the collection and storage processes (e.g. on student enrolment forms and in information management systems):

- ‘Main language other than English spoken at home’ of the student; and
- ‘Main language other than English spoken at home’ of the mother/parent1/guardian1; and
- ‘Main language other than English spoken at home’ of the father/parent2/guardian2.

3.7 Technical specifications – Main language other than English spoken at home continued

The procedures for coding multiple language responses are:

- If the respondent specifies that more than one language other than English is spoken, then the response should be coded to the first language other than English specified.
- If the respondent specifies that they speak both English and another language(s), then the response should be coded to the first language other than English specified.

The above coding rules will result in some misreporting, as the first language specified might not be the main language (other than English) spoken at home.

Guide for Use:

The coding index to link responses to the 'Main language other than English spoken at home' question to the Australian Standard Classification of Languages Second Edition, is described at [Attachment 6](#). This coding index facilitates data being accurately coded to the appropriate ASCL code by providing an alphabetical listing of possible question responses that can be coded to the relevant ASCL code.

Output Requirements:

The following output codes need to be recorded in respect of each student and provided to the testing agent as and when required:

- 4 digit ASCL code for the student;
- 4 digit ASCL code for the mother/parent1/guardian1; and
- 4 digit ASCL code for the father/parent2/guardian2.

Information System Requirements:

It is necessary to store 'Main language other than English spoken at home' data that will enable output according to the following:

Form of representation:	Code
Datatype:	Numeric character
Size of data element values:	4
Permissible data element values:	All codes represented in the <i>Australian Standard Classification of Languages (ASCL) Second Edition, ABS cat. No. 1267.0.</i>

Where the language spoken by the respondent is not stated the code should be '0002'.

The code for the most common response 'No, English only' is 1201.

3.7 Technical specifications – Main language other than English spoken at home continued

Four-digit codes ending with two or three zeros are described as 'not further defined' (n.f.d.) codes. These codes are used to code responses that cannot be coded to the most detailed level of the classification but can be coded to a higher level of the classification.

For example: a response 'Celtic' does not contain sufficient information to be coded to a particular language but it can be coded to the Narrow Group 'Celtic' (11) as 'Celtic n.f.d.' (1100), which includes all languages in this Group.

Coding Structure:

The ASCL Second Edition (ABS cat. no. 1267.0) is a 4-digit, three-level hierarchical coding structure. The following example illustrates the coding scheme:

Broad Group:	1	Northern European Languages
Narrow Group:	11	Celtic
Detailed Level:	1101	Gaelic (Scotland)
	1102	Irish
	1103	Welsh
	1199	Celtic, n.e.c.

The ASCL Second Edition comprises nine Broad Groups, 51 Narrow Groups and 364 Detailed Levels. For a complete list of Language codes refer to the *Australian Standard Classification of Languages (ASCL) Second Edition, ABS cat. No. 1267.0*.

Information for the Testing Agent: Deriving 'Language background' and 'Main language other than English spoken at home' indicators

For the purpose of nationally comparable reporting on student outcomes in the annual National Report on Schooling in Australia (ANR) the testing agent will be asked to provide tables on the learning outcomes of students including their Language background. Generally, for the language background indicator, if either the student or parent/guardian1 or parent/guardian2 speaks a language other than English at home, the derived language background indicator code will be 'LBOTE'.

For the purpose of providing such tables, the testing agent will need to compare 'Main language other than English spoken at home' data from the student, the father and the mother to derive the Language background indicator. Based on the above code values for each of the student, the mother/parent1/guardian1 and father/parent2/guardian2, the testing agent will determine the 'Language background'.

Therefore, the derivation requires the combination of Students' Language (SLG), Father's Language (FLG) and Mother's Language (MLG) to determine a single value, the Language background indicator. This is illustrated in the following table:

Derivation Conditions	Language background Indicator
1. SLG= 1201, FLG = 1201, 0002, 0001, 0000 MLG = 1201, 0002, 0001, 0000	Language background Indicator = Not LBOTE
2. FLG (not =) 1201, 0002, 0001, 0000	Language background Indicator = LBOTE
3. SLG = 1201, FLG = 0002, 0001, 0000, MLG (not =) 1201, 0002, 0001, 0000	Language background Indicator = LBOTE
4 SLG = 0002, 0001, 0000, FLG = 1201, 0002, 0001, 0000, MLG = 1201	Language background Indicator = Not LBOTE
5. SLG = 0002, 0001, 0000 FLG = 1201, 0002, 0001, 0000, MLG (not =) 1201, 0002, 0001, 0000	Language background Indicator = LBOTE
6. SLG = 0002, 0001, 0000, FLG = 1201, MLG = 0002, 0001, 0000	Language background Indicator = Not LBOTE
7. SLG = 0002, 0001, 0000, FLG = 0002, 0001, 0000, MLG = 0002, 0001, 0000	Language background Indicator = Not stated/Non verbal/Inadequately described

Example 1: Where the Language (student) response code is '1201', the Language (father) response code is '2101' and the Language (mother) response code is '0002', the derived Language background indicator code will be 'LBOTE'.

Example 2: Where the Language (student) response code is '1201', the Language (father) response code is '1201' and the Language (mother) response code is '2101', the derived Language background indicator code will be 'LBOTE'.

Example 3: Where the Language (student) response code is '0002', the Language (father) response code is '1201' and the Language (mother) response code is '1201', the derived Language background indicator code will be 'Not LBOTE'.

Example 4: Where the Language (student) response code is '0002', the Language (father) response code is '0002' and the Language (mother) response code is '0002', the derived Language background indicator code will be 'Not stated/Non verbal/Inadequately described'.

The coding structure for Main Language Other Than English Spoken At Home, represented above by Students' Language (SLG), Father's Language (FLG) and Mother's Language (MLG) is based on the Australian Standard Classification of Languages Second Edition where:

0000 Inadequately described
0001 Non verbal, so described
0002 Not stated
1201 English
All other 4 digit languages as specified in ASCL Second Edition.

There is also the potential to report by main language spoken at home. Final decisions on exact reporting categories for the 'Main language other than English spoken at home' indicator will be made when the requirements of the relevant ANR are settled.

3.8 Technical specifications – Country of birth

Definition: 'Country of birth' of a student is defined as being the one in which the student was born.

Related Indicator(s): 'Country of birth' of student may be used in relation to understanding the 'Language background' and 'Main language other than English spoken at home' indicators.

Question Module: Either one of the following two question options should be used to collect 'Country of birth' data for the student:

Question Option One:

In which country was the student born?

- Australia.....
- New Zealand.....
- England
- China
- Philippines
- South Africa
- Hong Kong
- India
- United States of America
- South Korea
- Other – please specify:.....

Schools or school systems can choose to use either the above list; a list of the main countries of birth for their State/Territory provided at Attachment 7; or another list of countries developed by the school or school system. Regardless of the list of countries used, the question format must not be changed and the coding needs to be consistent with ABS standards.

Lists of countries for each State/Territory provided at Attachment 7 were derived using Census 2001 data for 'Students 5–19 years of age'.

Question Option Two:

In which country was the student born?

- Australia.....
- Other – please specify:

3.8 Technical specifications – Country of birth continued

Question Option Two involves a more complex and time consuming coding process compared with the tick box layout of Question Option One, which is designed to enable direct coding of the majority of responses.

Rules:

It is necessary to uniquely identify in the collection and storage processes (e.g. on student enrolment forms and in information management systems), the 'Country of birth' of the student.

Guide for Use:

The coding index to link responses to the 'Country of birth' question to the Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC) is described at [Attachment 8](#). This coding index facilitates data being accurately coded to the appropriate SACC code by providing an alphabetical listing of possible question responses and the relevant SACC code.

Output Requirements:

A 4-digit SACC code needs to be recorded for each student and provided to the testing agent as and when required.

Information System Requirements:

It is necessary to store 'Country of birth' data that will enable output according to the following:

Form of representation:	Code
Datatype:	Numeric character
Size of data element values:	4
Permissible data element values:	All codes represented in the <i>Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC)</i> (ABS cat. no. 1269.0).

Where the 'Country of birth' is not stated, the code should be '0003'.

Four-digit codes ending with two or three zeros are described as 'not further defined' (n.f.d.) codes. These codes are used to code responses that cannot be coded to the most detailed level of the classification but can be coded to a broader level of the classification.

For example: a response 'United Kingdom' does not contain sufficient information to be coded to a particular country but it can be coded to the Minor Group 'United Kingdom' (21) as 'United Kingdom n.f.d.' (2100) which includes all countries in this Group.

The code for the most common response 'Australia' is 1101.

3.8 Technical specifications – Country of birth continued

Coding Structure:

The SACC (*ABS cat. no.1269.0*) is a 4-digit, three-level hierarchical structure (Major Group, Minor Group and Detailed Level). The following example illustrates the coding scheme:

Major Group:	2	North-West Europe
Minor Group:	21	United Kingdom
Detailed Level:	2101	Channel Islands
	2102	England
	2103	Isle of Man
	2104	Northern Ireland
	2105	Scotland
	2106	Wales

SACC comprises nine Major Groups, 27 Minor Groups and 245 Detailed Levels. For a complete list of Country codes refer to the *Standard Australian Classification of Countries* (SACC) (*ABS cat. no.1269.0*).

Information for the Testing Agent:

In reporting student outcomes in the annual National Report on Schooling (ANR), information on students' country of birth may be used to supplement data on 'Language background' and 'Main language other than English spoken at home'.

Final decisions on how country of birth data is to be used will be made when the requirements of the relevant ANR are settled.

ATTACHMENT 1A: CHECKLIST FOR EXISTING USERS

This attachment is for use by schools and schools systems which have already collected student information from parents according to the agreed questions and have enrolment forms or special data collection forms in place.

Task	Notes
<input type="checkbox"/> For information collected from students for the first time in 2007, ensure that the responses to main language spoken at home are coded to the coding index specified in Attachment 6 of this manual.	The 2007 manual contains the link to ABS' updated Australian Standard Classification of Languages. Need to ensure that this listing is used to code responses and not the version referred to in the 2005–06 manual.

ATTACHMENT 1B: IMPLEMENTATION CHECKLIST FOR NEW USERS

This attachment is for use by schools and schools systems (or parts of school systems) which are implementing collections of student information from parents according to the agreed questions for the first time.

These users might include new independent schools and secondary schools (in all sectors) which have not previously implemented revised enrolment forms etc, but who wish to collect information in 2007 so that it will be available on Year 9 students in 2008.

Task	Notes
<input type="checkbox"/> Inform school community of information required from parents.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Modify the enrolment form and where necessary develop special data collection forms to include the required questions from Section 3 (Technical Specifications).	This may require amendment of existing questions and the addition of new questions.
<input type="checkbox"/> Check privacy requirements and notices provided to parents regarding provision of information to testing agents.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Confirm the format for providing information to testing agents.	This will usually be done at the system or central level (for example by Associations of Independent Schools in the independent sector). The purpose is to establish the format in which the information on students' background characteristics is to be transmitted to testing agents.
<input type="checkbox"/> Modify the system for student records to include responses to the questions added to the enrolment form.	For manual records this will mean including the necessary fields on record cards. For electronic data storage and retrieval, this will mean customising the software to amend existing fields or include new fields. Attention will also need to be paid to advice from testing agents on the format in which the information will be transmitted to them.
<input type="checkbox"/> Review procedures for completion of the enrolment form or special data collection form. These may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • distribution and collection of forms • handling queries from parents • interviewing parents • checking for completeness and accuracy • entering data to storage and retrieval systems. 	Modifications to existing procedures may be required.
<input type="checkbox"/> Train personnel involved in enrolment or data collection procedures.	Relevant personnel include those responsible for such processes as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interviews • answering questions • handling complaints • checking • data entry.
<input type="checkbox"/> Implement the revised enrolment system .	

<input type="checkbox"/> If necessary, use special data collection forms to collect background information from parents on students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9, as well as students participating in Year 6 national sample testing.	This will require special forms (See Section 2.1.2).
<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare processes for providing the background information in the format required by the testing agent.	Subject to advice from the testing agent. This may require the preparation of tables to send to the testing agent.

ATTACHMENT 2: BACKGROUND TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREED DEFINITIONS FOR STUDENT BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

National Goals for Schooling

In 1999, State, Territory and Australian Government Ministers for Education, meeting as the 10th Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA), endorsed a new statement of national goals, the *National Goals for Schooling in the Twenty-First Century*.

Priority areas of schooling

At the same time, Ministers agreed to report on progress towards the achievement of the *National Goals* in the following six priority areas of schooling using key performance measures as the basis for nationally comparable reporting:

- literacy
- numeracy
- science
- information and communication technology
- student participation and attainment
- vocational education and training in schools.

Ministers also asked for work to begin on key performance measures for civics and citizenship education and enterprise education.

MCEETYA Performance Measurement and Reporting Taskforce

The taskforce established by Ministers is responsible for the development and maintenance of the key performance measures, which provide the basis for national reporting and for the development of nationally consistent definitions of student groups. The taskforce comprises representatives of the Australian Government, all State and Territory education departments and of the two peak bodies representing the non-government school sector (the National Catholic Education Commission and the Independent Schools Council of Australia).

Key Performance Measures

Ministers agreed that the national key performance measures would be a set of measures 'limited in number and strategic in orientation'. In most instances, including the five set out in the table below, the KPMs are expressed as a percentage of students achieving a set standard or level of proficiency in a given learning area.

The table below sets out the key performance measures for five of the priority areas noted above and provides details of the year level(s) at which assessments will be conducted, the proportion of students undertaking the assessment – that is, the full cohort (all students) or a sample of students – and the frequency of the assessments. It also indicates, in bold type, those assessments for which linking of enrolment data and test data is required.

These five areas are particularly important in relation to reporting outcomes by student groups, as there is a need, for assessments for year levels up to and including Year 7, to link students' outcomes on the assessments with their background characteristics as reported on enrolment or special data collection forms.

Agreed Key Performance Measures as at January 2007

Measure	Year Level	Full cohort or Sample	Basis/Test-Instrument	Frequency or Cycle
Literacy – % achieving reading/spelling/writing benchmark	Years 3, 5, 7	Full cohort	State and Territory tests, plus ACER LANNA	Annual
Numeracy – % achieving numeracy benchmark	Years 3, 5, 7	Full cohort	as above	Annual
Science – % achieving standard	Year 6	National sample	National Test	Three-yearly from 2003
Civics and Citizenship Education – % achieving standard	Year 6 } Year 10 }	National sample	National Test	Three-yearly from 2004
Information and Communication Technology (ICT) – % achieving standard	Year 6 } Year 10 }	National sample	National Test	Three-yearly from 2005

Bold text indicates year levels for which linking will be required.

Reporting on student groups

The capacity to obtain a coherent national picture of the educational progress of students across Australia has been affected by the variety of definitions of student groups used by different States and Territories, school systems and schools.

Ministers' agreement to develop nationally consistent definitions of groups of the population arose from their recognition that, when reporting on students' educational outcomes, there needs to be reporting in respect of particular groups of students.

The *National Goals* also provide the underlying rationale for nationally comparable reporting in respect of particular groups of students. In particular, they state that

Schooling should be socially just, so that:

students' outcomes from schooling should be free of negative forms of discrimination based on sex, language, culture and ethnicity, religion or disability; and of differences arising from students' socio-economic background or geographic location [Goal 3.1]

the learning outcomes of educationally disadvantaged students [should] improve and, over time, match those of other students [Goal 3.2].

The reporting of student outcomes using agreed definitions of student groups will become a standard component of reporting in the annual *National Report on Schooling in Australia (ANR)* and therefore applies to government and non-government schools.

ATTACHMENT 3: SPECIAL DATA COLLECTION FORMS

This attachment provides two sample forms (A and B) which contain the agreed question modules provided in Section 3.

Schools or school systems may wish to use these sample forms as special data collection forms. Schools or school systems may also use the question layouts contained in these samples in revising their enrolment forms.

The difference between the two samples lies in the questions relating to country of birth and language background where there are two question options.

Sample A contains the question modules which entail the least amount of coding. It is slightly longer than Sample B as the most common countries and languages are listed so that they can be ticked. If a school or school system chooses to use the question formats in Sample A, they may wish to consider the alternative (State and Territory-based) lists of languages and lists of countries in Attachments 5 and 7 respectively. The lists are highlighted in yellow in Sample A.

Sample B provides the shortest form of these questions; however this will require schools or school systems to do more coding.

Schools or school systems may choose to use a mix of questions from the two samples. They can also choose their preferred terminology for parents/guardians (described in the Glossary). Considerable flexibility is provided so long as the actual questions and response categories are not altered.

[This form provides questions which entail the least amount of coding by schools. Schools or school systems may choose alternative lists of languages and countries– see Attachments 5 and 7]

SAMPLE A: Data Collection Form

Information required for assessment and reporting purposes



Note: If you need help with this form please see pages 4 and 5 for your primary contact.

Name of student:

First name

Last name

Home address of student:

(No. and street name)

Suburb

Postcode

[Schools may wish to put a reference to their privacy policy here indicating that information collected from this form will be covered by the School's Privacy Policy.]

- 1 Sex** Male.....
 Female.....

2 Is the student of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?

(For persons of both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin, mark both 'Yes' boxes.)

- No.....
 Yes, Aboriginal.....
 Yes, Torres Strait Islander.....

3 In which country was the student born?

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Australia..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| New Zealand..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| England..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| China..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Philippines..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| South Africa..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Hong Kong..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| India..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| United States of America..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| South Korea..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other – please specify..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |

4 Does the student or their mother/guardian or their father/guardian speak a language other than English at home?

(If more than one language, indicate the one that is spoken most often.)

		student	mother/parent1/ guardian1	father/parent2/ guardian2
No,	English only.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes,	Italian	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes,	Cantonese.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes,	Arabic (incl. Lebanese).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes,	Vietnamese.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes,	Greek.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes,	Mandarin.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes,	Tagalog – (Filipino).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes,	Spanish	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes,	Macedonian.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes,	Other – please specify	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5(a) What is the highest year of primary or secondary school the parents/guardians have completed?

(For persons who have never attended school, mark 'Year 9 or equivalent or below.)

Mark one box only in each column

	mother/parent1/ guardian1	father/parent2/ guardian2
Year 12 or equivalent.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Year 11 or equivalent.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Year 10 or equivalent.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Year 9 or equivalent or below.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5(b) What is the level of the highest qualification the parents/guardians have completed?

Mark one box only in each column

	mother/parent1/ guardian1	father/parent2/ guardian2
Bachelor degree or above.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advanced diploma/Diploma.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Certificate I to IV (including trade certificate).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No non-school qualification.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6(a) What is the occupation group of the mother/parent1/guardian1?

6(b) What is the occupation group of the father/parent2/guardian2?

Please select the appropriate parental occupation group from the attached list.

- If the person is not currently in paid work but has had a job in the last 12 months or has retired in the last 12 months, please use the person's last occupation.*
- If the person has not been in paid work in the last 12 months, enter '8' in the box above.*

Thank you for your time.

Please return this form to the school in the enclosed envelope.

List of Parental Occupation Groups (for question 6)

Group 1: Senior management in large business organisation, government administration and defence, and qualified professionals

Senior executive/manager/department head in industry, commerce, media or other large organisation.
Public service manager (Section head or above), regional director, health/education/police/fire services administrator
Other administrator [school principal, faculty head/dean, library/museum/gallery director, research facility director]
Defence Forces Commissioned Officer
Professionals generally have degree or higher qualifications and experience in applying this knowledge to design, develop or operate complex systems; identify, treat and advise on problems; and teach others.
Health, Education, Law, Social Welfare, Engineering, Science, Computing professional
Business [management consultant, business analyst, accountant, auditor, policy analyst, actuary, valuer]
Air/sea transport [aircraft/ship's captain/officer/pilot, flight officer, flying instructor, air traffic controller]

Group 2: Other business managers, arts/media/sportspersons and associate professionals

Owner/manager of farm, construction, import/export, wholesale, manufacturing, transport, real estate business
Specialist manager [finance/engineering/production/personnel/industrial relations/sales/marketing]
Financial services manager [bank branch manager, finance/investment/insurance broker, credit/loans officer]
Retail sales/services manager [shop, petrol station, restaurant, club, hotel/motel, cinema, theatre, agency]
Arts/media/sports [musician, actor, dancer, painter, potter, sculptor, journalist, author, media presenter, photographer, designer, illustrator, proof reader, sportsman/woman, coach, trainer, sports official]
Associate professionals generally have diploma/technical qualifications and support managers and professionals.
Health, Education, Law, Social Welfare, Engineering, Science, Computing technician/associate professional
Business/administration [recruitment/employment/industrial relations/training officer, marketing/advertising specialist, market research analyst, technical sales representative, retail buyer, office/project manager]
Defence Forces senior Non-Commissioned Officer

Group 3: Tradesmen/women, clerks and skilled office, sales and service staff

Tradesmen/women generally have completed a 4 year Trade Certificate, usually by apprenticeship. All tradesmen/women are included in this group.
Clerks [bookkeeper, bank/PO clerk, statistical/actuarial clerk, accounting/claims/audit clerk, payroll clerk, recording/registry/filing clerk, betting clerk, stores/inventory clerk, purchasing/order clerk, freight/transport/shipping clerk, bond clerk, customs agent, customer services clerk, admissions clerk]
Skilled office, sales and service staff.
Office [secretary, personal assistant, desktop publishing operator, switchboard operator]
Sales [company sales representative, auctioneer, insurance agent/assessor/loss adjuster, market researcher]
Service [aged/disabled/refugee/child care worker, nanny, meter reader, parking inspector, postal worker, courier, travel agent, tour guide, flight attendant, fitness instructor, casino dealer/supervisor]

Group 4: Machine operators, hospitality staff, assistants, labourers and related workers

Drivers, mobile plant, production/processing machinery and other machinery operators.
Hospitality staff [hotel service supervisor, receptionist, waiter, bar attendant, kitchenhand, porter, housekeeper]
Office assistants, sales assistants and other assistants.
Office [typist, word processing/data entry/business machine operator, receptionist, office assistant]
Sales [sales assistant, motor vehicle/caravan/parts salesperson, checkout operator, cashier, bus/train conductor, ticket seller, service station attendant, car rental desk staff, street vendor, telemarketer, shelf stacker]
Assistant/aide [trades' assistant, school/teacher's aide, dental assistant, veterinary nurse, nursing assistant, museum/gallery attendant, usher, home helper, salon assistant, animal attendant]
Labourers and related workers
Defence Forces ranks below senior NCO not included above
Agriculture, horticulture, forestry, fishing, mining worker [farm overseer, shearer, wool/hide classer, farm hand, horse trainer, nurseryman, greenkeeper, gardener, tree surgeon, forestry/logging worker, miner, seafarer/fishing hand]
Other worker [labourer, factory hand, storeman, guard, cleaner, caretaker, laundry worker, trolley collector, car park attendant, crossing supervisor]

[This form provides the shortest form of each question but note that this will involve schools in more coding than the alternative form]



SAMPLE B: Data Collection Form

Information required for assessment and reporting purposes

Note: If you need help with this form please see pages 4 and 5 for your primary contact.

Name of student:

First name

Last name

Home address of student:

(No. and street name)

Suburb

Postcode

[Schools may wish to put a reference to their privacy policy here indicating that information collected from this form will be covered by the School's Privacy Policy.]

- 1 **Sex** Male.....
Female.....

2 Is the student of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?

(For persons of both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin, mark both 'Yes' boxes.)

- No.....
Yes, Aboriginal.....
Yes, Torres Strait Islander.....

3 In which country was the student born?

- Australia.....
Other – please specify.....

4 Does the student or their mother/guardian or their father/guardian speak a language other than English *at home*?

(If more than one language, indicate the one that is spoken most often.)

- | | student | mother/parent1/
guardian1 | father/parent2/
guardian2 |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| No, English only..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Yes, Other – please specify | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

5(a) What is the highest year of primary or secondary school the parents/guardians have completed?

(For persons who have never attended school, mark 'Year 9 or equivalent or below'.)

Mark one box only in each column

	mother/parent1/ guardian1		father/parent2/ guardian2
Year 12 or equivalent.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Year 11 or equivalent.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Year 10 or equivalent.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Year 9 or equivalent or below.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5(b) What is the level of the highest qualification the parents/guardians have completed?

Mark one box only in each column

	mother/parent1/ guardian1		father/parent2/ guardian2
Bachelor degree or above.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advanced diploma/Diploma.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Certificate I to IV (including trade certificate).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No non-school qualification.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6(a) What is the occupation group of the mother/parent1/guardian1?

6(b) What is the occupation group of the father/parent2/guardian2?

Please select the appropriate parental occupation group from the attached list.

- If the person is not currently in paid work but has had a job in the last 12 months or has retired in the last 12 months, please use the person's last occupation.
- If the person has not been in paid work in the last 12 months, enter '8' in the box above.

Thank you for your time.

Please return this form to the school in the enclosed envelope.

List of Parental Occupation Groups (for question 6)

Group 1: Senior management in large business organisation, government administration and defence, and qualified professionals

Senior executive/manager/department head in industry, commerce, media or other large organisation.
Public service manager (Section head or above), regional director, health/education/police/fire services administrator
Other administrator [school principal, faculty head/dean, library/museum/gallery director, research facility director]
Defence Forces Commissioned Officer
Professionals generally have degree or higher qualifications and experience in applying this knowledge to design, develop or operate complex systems; identify, treat and advise on problems; and teach others.
Health, Education, Law, Social Welfare, Engineering, Science, Computing professional
Business [management consultant, business analyst, accountant, auditor, policy analyst, actuary, valuer]
Air/sea transport [aircraft/ship's captain/officer/pilot, flight officer, flying instructor, air traffic controller]

Group 2: Other business managers, arts/media/sportspersons and associate professionals

Owner/manager of farm, construction, import/export, wholesale, manufacturing, transport, real estate business
Specialist manager [finance/engineering/production/personnel/industrial relations/sales/marketing]
Financial services manager [bank branch manager, finance/investment/insurance broker, credit/loans officer]
Retail sales/services manager [shop, petrol station, restaurant, club, hotel/motel, cinema, theatre, agency]
Arts/media/sports [musician, actor, dancer, painter, potter, sculptor, journalist, author, media presenter, photographer, designer, illustrator, proof reader, sportsman/woman, coach, trainer, sports official]
Associate professionals generally have diploma/technical qualifications and support managers and professionals.
Health, Education, Law, Social Welfare, Engineering, Science, Computing technician/associate professional
Business/administration [recruitment/employment/industrial relations/training officer, marketing/advertising specialist, market research analyst, technical sales representative, retail buyer, office/project manager]
Defence Forces senior Non-Commissioned Officer

Group 3: Tradesmen/women, clerks and skilled office, sales and service staff

Tradesmen/women generally have completed a 4 year Trade Certificate, usually by apprenticeship. All tradesmen/women are included in this group.
Clerks [bookkeeper, bank/PO clerk, statistical/actuarial clerk, accounting/claims/audit clerk, payroll clerk, recording/registry/filing clerk, betting clerk, stores/inventory clerk, purchasing/order clerk, freight/transport/shipping clerk, bond clerk, customs agent, customer services clerk, admissions clerk]
Skilled office, sales and service staff.
Office [secretary, personal assistant, desktop publishing operator, switchboard operator]
Sales [company sales representative, auctioneer, insurance agent/assessor/loss adjuster, market researcher]
Service [aged/disabled/refugee/child care worker, nanny, meter reader, parking inspector, postal worker, courier, travel agent, tour guide, flight attendant, fitness instructor, casino dealer/supervisor]

Group 4: Machine operators, hospitality staff, assistants, labourers and related workers

Drivers, mobile plant, production/processing machinery and other machinery operators.
Hospitality staff [hotel service supervisor, receptionist, waiter, bar attendant, kitchenhand, porter, housekeeper]
Office assistants, sales assistants and other assistants.
Office [typist, word processing/data entry/business machine operator, receptionist, office assistant]
Sales [sales assistant, motor vehicle/caravan/parts salesperson, checkout operator, cashier, bus/train conductor, ticket seller, service station attendant, car rental desk staff, street vendor, telemarketer, shelf stacker]
Assistant/aide [trades' assistant, school/teacher's aide, dental assistant, veterinary nurse, nursing assistant, museum/gallery attendant, usher, home helper, salon assistant, animal attendant]
Labourers and related workers
Defence Forces ranks below senior NCO not included above
Agriculture, horticulture, forestry, fishing, mining worker [farm overseer, shearer, wool/hide classer, farm hand, horse trainer, nurseryman, greenkeeper, gardener, tree surgeon, forestry/logging worker, miner, seafarer/fishing hand]
Other worker [labourer, factory hand, storeman, guard, cleaner, caretaker, laundry worker, trolley collector, car park attendant, crossing supervisor]

ATTACHMENT 4: GLOSSARY

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics.
ANR	See National Report on Schooling.
Bachelor degree and above	Includes Postgraduate Degree, Masters Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate, Bachelor Degree (with Honours) and Bachelor Degree.
Certificate I to IV (including trade certificate)	Includes Certificate I, Certificate II, Certificate III, Certificate IV, Trade Certificate, Advanced Certificate, Apprenticeship Certificate, Traineeship Certificate.
Country of birth	The country in which the student was born. This information may be used in relation to understanding the Language background indicator and main language other than English spoken at home indicator.
Data type	Could be an integer, numeric, alphanumeric etc. In the 'Country of Birth' data element, the data type would be a numeric code from the Standard Australian Classification of Countries.
Diploma/Advanced diploma	Includes Advanced Diploma, Associate Degree and Diploma.
Enrolment form	The form used by schools to collect information from parents when enrolling students.
Father/parent2/guardian2	See Parent/guardian.
Form of representation	Could be a code or a picture. In all cases in this document it will be a code.
ICT	Information and communication technology.
IEA	International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement
Indigenous status	A student is considered to be 'Indigenous' if he or she identifies as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin. The indicator will be used to determine Indigenous and non-Indigenous status.
Key Performance Measures	See Attachment 2.
KPM	See Key Performance Measures.
Language background indicator	This indicator is derived from the main language other than English spoken at home by the student or mother or father at home. It indicates whether a student is of an English or other than English language background. A student is defined as being of a language background other than English if either the student, the student's mother or the student's father speaks a language other than English at home.
LBOTE	Language Background other than English
Main language other than English spoken at home	The main language, other than English, spoken in the student's home by the student or mother or father.
MCEETYA	Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs.
Mother/parent1/guardian1	See Parent/guardian.
NAP	National Assessment Program – The NAP comprises a suite of national and international assessments which provide nationally comparable data on student achievement in literacy, numeracy, science, civics and citizenship and ICT.
National goals	See National Goals for Schooling.
National Goals for Schooling	See http://www.mceetya.edu.au
National Report on Schooling	See http://www.mceetya.edu.au
National sample assessment	Three-yearly national assessments involving samples of schools and students, in the areas of science (Year 6), civics and citizenship education (Years 6 and 10) and ICT (also Years 6 and 10). See Attachment 2.
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Parent/guardian	Schools and school systems should select the appropriate wording for "Mother/parent/guardian" and "Father/parent/guardian" on their enrolment form, to align with local or State/Territory policies. Some possible alternatives are using: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mother and father • parent 1 and parent 2 • guardian 1 and guardian 2 • parent/guardian1 and parent/guardian2 • mother/guardian1 and father/guardian2 • mother/parent1/guardian1 and father/parent2/guardian2.
Parental non-school education	The highest qualification attained by a parent/guardian in any area of study other than school education.
Parental occupation group	The occupation group which includes the main work undertaken by the parent/guardian. For the purposes of national reporting, a parent/guardian's work is classified into one of four groups.
Parental school education	The highest year of primary or secondary education a parent/guardian has completed.
Performance Measurement and Reporting Taskforce	A taskforce of MCEETYA that is responsible for the development and reporting of Key Performance Measures that enable progress to be assessed against the National Goals for Schooling.
Permissible data element values	Are all codes represented in the Classification being used? In the case of Country of Birth, this would be every code included in the classification and any supplementary codes used.
PISA	The OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), which assesses 15-year-old students every 3 years from 2000.
PMRT	See Performance Measurement and Reporting Taskforce.
Question module	The exact wording of a question and response categories to be included on the enrolment or special data collection form.
Sex	'Sex' is the distinction 'male' and 'female', as reported by a person.
Size of data element values	Shows the field length required to store the data. In the case of Country of Birth, the size would be 4, which is the length of the numeric code.
Socioeconomic background – education	The indicator derived from the parental school and parental non-school education for both parents/guardians. The indicator will be based on the higher educational attainment of the two parents/guardians.
Socioeconomic background – occupation	The indicator derived from parental occupation group of both parents/guardians. The indicator will be based on the higher occupation group of the two parents/guardians.
Student identifier	A numeric or alphanumeric string that is used to uniquely identify a given student within a school or school system, for example a student number.
Supplementary codes	These include 'Inadequately described', 'Not stated and 'Not further defined' codes. 'Not further defined' codes are used to process incomplete, non-specific or imprecise responses which cannot be coded to the most detailed level of classification but which contain enough information to allow them to be coded to a higher level of the classification structure. They are designed to facilitate processing by allowing non-specific responses to be coded to a broader level of classification rather than be lost altogether. 'Inadequately described' codes are used to process responses which do not provide sufficient information to be coded to any level of the structure.
Testing agent	An organisation administering literacy and numeracy testing at Years 3, 5 and 7 (usually but not always a State or Territory department of education or board of studies) or administering a particular national sample assessment. A testing agent may be responsible for some or all aspects of the preparation, distribution and collection of student tests, the linking of test results with student background characteristics, the analysis of results or the preparation of reports.
TIMSS	The IEA's Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study involves assessments of Years 4 and 8 students every 4 years in order to provide data on trends in mathematics and science achievement.

ATTACHMENT 5: MAIN LANGUAGES SPOKEN, BY STATE/TERRITORY

Collection of 'Main language other than English spoken at home' by the student and both parents/guardians living in the home is required for reporting purposes. Some schools or school systems may wish to tailor the tick-box options for the 'Main language other than English spoken at home' Question Option One to the main languages spoken for their State/Territory (refer to 'Main language other than English spoken at home' data element for additional information). Alternatively schools or school systems may wish to tailor the tick-box options to another list of main languages spoken. Regardless of the list of languages used, the question format must not be changed.

This attachment provides the tick box options for all States/Territories and Australia that are relevant to the sub-population of 'Parents with students 5–19 years of age'. These options were derived using ABS Census 2001 data for 'Parents with students 5–19 years of age'.

Australia:

Does the student/mother/parent1/guardian1/father/parent2/guardian2 speak a language other than English at home?

(If more than one language, indicate the one that is spoken most often.)

- No, English only.....
- Yes, Italian.....
- Yes, Cantonese.....
- Yes, Arabic (incl. Lebanese).....
- Yes, Vietnamese.....
- Yes, Greek.....
- Yes, Mandarin.....
- Yes, Tagalog – (Filipino).....
- Yes, Spanish
- Yes, Macedonian.....
- Yes, Other – please specify.....

New South Wales:

Does the student/mother/parent1/guardian1/father/parent2/guardian2 speak a language other than English at home?

(If more than one language, indicate the one that is spoken most often.)

- No, English only.....
- Yes, Arabic (incl. Lebanese).....
- Yes, Cantonese.....
- Yes, Mandarin.....
- Yes, Vietnamese.....
- Yes, Italian.....
- Yes, Greek.....
- Yes, Tagalog (Filipino).....
- Yes, Spanish.....
- Yes, Hindi.....
- Yes, Other – please specify.....

Victoria:

Does the student/mother/parent1/guardian1/father/parent2/ speak a language other than English at home?

(If more than one language, indicate the one that is spoken most often.)

- No, English only.....
- Yes, Italian.....
- Yes, Greek.....
- Yes, Vietnamese.....
- Yes, Cantonese.....
- Yes, Arabic (incl. Lebanese).....
- Yes, Mandarin.....
- Yes, Turkish.....
- Yes, Macedonian.....
- Yes, Tagalog (Filipino)
- Yes, Other – please specify.....

Queensland:

Does the student/mother/parent1/guardian1/father/parent2/guardian2 speak a language other than English at home?

(If more than one language, indicate the one that is spoken most often.)

- No, English only.....
- Yes, Cantonese.....
- Yes, Italian.....
- Yes, Vietnamese.....
- Yes, Mandarin.....
- Yes, Tagalog (Filipino).....
- Yes, Spanish.....
- Yes, Samoan.....
- Yes, Greek.....
- Yes, German.....
- Yes, Other – please specify.....

South Australia:

Does the student/mother/parent1/guardian1/father/parent2/guardian2 speak a language other than English at home?

(If more than one language, indicate the one that is spoken most often.)

- No, English only.....
- Yes, Italian.....
- Yes, Greek.....
- Yes, Vietnamese.....
- Yes, Cantonese
- Yes, Polish.....
- Yes, Arabic (incl. Lebanese).....
- Yes, Tagalog (Filipino).....
- Yes, Serbian.....
- Yes, German.....
- Yes, Other – please specify.....

Western Australia:

Does the student/mother/parent1/guardian1/father/parent2/guardian2 speak a language other than English at home?

(If more than one language, indicate the one that is spoken most often.)

- No, English only.....
- Yes, Italian.....
- Yes, Cantonese.....
- Yes, Vietnamese.....
- Yes, Mandarin
- Yes, Polish.....
- Yes, Macedonian.....
- Yes, Arabic (incl. Lebanese).....
- Yes, Spanish.....
- Yes, Indonesian.....
- Yes, Other – please specify.....

Tasmania:

Does the student/mother/parent1/guardian1/father/parent2/guardian2 speak a language other than English at home?

(If more than one language, indicate the one that is spoken most often.)

- No, English only.....
- Yes, Greek.....
- Yes, Netherlandic.....
- Yes, Italian.....
- Yes, German.....
- Yes, Spanish.....
- Yes, Polish
- Yes, Cantonese.....
- Yes, Tagalog - (Filipino).....
- Yes, Arabic (incl. Lebanese).....
- Yes, Other - please specify.....

Northern Territory:

Does the student/mother/parent1/guardian1/father/parent2/guardian2 speak a language other than English at home?

(If more than one language, indicate the one that is spoken most often.)

- No, English only.....
- Yes, Greek.....
- Yes, Warlpiri.....
- Yes, Arrernte (Aranda).....
- Yes, Kriol.....
- Yes, Tagalog (Filipino)
- Yes, Tiwi.....
- Yes, Alyawarr (Alyawara).....
- Yes, Anindilyakwa.....
- Yes, Dhuwal-Dhuwala
- Yes, Other – please specify.....

Australian Capital Territory:

Does the student/mother/parent1/guardian1/father/parent2/guardian2 speak a language other than English at home?

(If more than one language, indicate the one that is spoken most often.)

- No, English only.....
- Yes, Italian.....
- Yes, Vietnamese.....
- Yes, Cantonese.....
- Yes, Spanish.....
- Yes, Croatian.....
- Yes, Mandarin.....
- Yes, Greek.....
- Yes, Tagalog – (Filipino).....
- Yes, Arabic (incl. Lebanese).....
- Yes, Other – please specify.....

ATTACHMENT 6: AUSTRALIAN STANDARD CLASSIFICATION OF LANGUAGES CODING INDEX

(Second Edition)

This index is available for download in both [alphabetical](#) and [numeric](#) order formats.

A coding index is required to link responses from the 'Main language other than English spoken at home' question to the *Australian Standard Classification of Languages (ASCL) Second Edition, ABS cat. No. 1267.0*.

Information provided in administrative collections does not always comprise the exact words used as the official names of classification categories in the ASCL. A coding index is therefore necessary to act as a link between individual responses and the classification categories, enabling data to be coded accurately and quickly to the appropriate category in the classification.

The coding index has been developed to assist in the implementation and use of the ASCL and should be used when coding responses to questions relating to language spoken. The coding index has been devised by reference to existing literature in the field; consultation with language experts, government and private organisations with language knowledge and expertise, and ethnic and community groups; and by analysis of existing ABS data. It contains a comprehensive list of the most probable responses to questions relating to language and their correct classification codes.

The base-level units of the classification are languages as described in the *Australian Standard Classification of Languages (ASCL) Second Edition, ABS cat. No. 1267.0*. The term 'language' is used in the ASCL to describe languages, dialects, pidgins, Creoles, and invented and sign languages. As well as the relevant recognised language and its official name, many of the Language categories also cover dialects and regional varieties of that language not separately identified in the classification. In addition to its coding function, the numerical index can be used to clarify the nature, extent and diverse content of each Language category. For example, Occitan and Walloon appear in the index with the same classification code as the Language category French.

Coding Rules

A range of coding rules is applied in the coding index to facilitate accurate coding of responses to the ASCL classification. These rules include:

Responses that match exactly with an entry in the coding index are assigned the code allocated to that index entry.

Responses that relate directly to a Language category are coded to that Language category. Such instances include responses that are an exact match with the Language category title except in terms of alternative spelling, the use of abbreviations, or the use of foreign or idiosyncratic words, etc., and responses that match the title in terms of the fundamental or basic words of the title and differ only in terms of qualifying or extraneous words.

Responses that relate directly to a Language category because they describe a variety, dialect or geographic variation of that language, for which a separate base unit has not been established in the classification, are coded directly to that Language category. For example, Siamese appears in the index with the same classification code as the Language category Thai.

Responses that cannot be identified as relating to a separately identified Language in the classification are assigned a residual category code, or a supplementary 'n.f.d.' (not further defined) code. A response should only be coded to a residual category if it is clear that it belongs in that category. For example, responses that cannot be identified as relating directly to a particular Language category, but which is known to be within the range of languages relating to a particular Narrow Group, are coded to that Narrow group and allocated an 'n.f.d.' code (for example, Celtic n.f.d. 1100). Responses that are not precise enough to be coded to any category of the classification are assigned the appropriate supplementary code. For example, an 'inadequately described' (0000) or a 'not stated' (0002) code.

ATTACHMENT 7: MAIN COUNTRIES OF BIRTH, BY STATE/ TERRITORY

Collection of 'Country of birth' of the student is required for assisting in the interpretation of responses on language background. Some schools or school systems may wish to tailor the tick-box options for 'Country of birth' Question Option One to the main countries of birth for their State/Territory (refer to 'Country of birth' data element, question module attribute for additional information). Alternatively schools or school systems may wish to tailor the tick-box options for 'Country of birth' Question Option One to another list of main countries of birth. Regardless of the list of countries used, the question format must not be changed.

This attachment provides the tick box options for all States/Territories and Australia that are relevant to the sub-population of 'Students 5–19 years of age'. This information was derived using ABS Census 2001 data for 'Students 5–19 years of age'.

Australia:

In which country was the student born?

- Australia.....
- New Zealand.....
- England.....
- China.....
- Philippines.....
- South Africa.....
- Hong Kong
- India
- United States of America.....
- South Korea
- Other – please specify.....

New South Wales:

In which country was the student born?

- Australia.....
- New Zealand.....
- China
- England.....
- Philippines.....
- Hong Kong (SAR of China).....
- South Korea
- South Africa
- India.....
- United States of America
- Other – please specify.....

Victoria:

In which country was the student born?

- Australia.....
- New Zealand.....
- England.....
- China
- Philippines.....
- Viet Nam.....
- India.....
- Hong Kong
- Sri Lanka
- South Africa.....
- Other – please specify.....

Queensland:

In which country was the student born?

- Australia.....
- New Zealand.....
- England.....
- South Africa.....
- Philippines.....
- Taiwan
- Papua New Guinea.....
- United States of America.....
- Hong Kong.....
- South Korea
- Other – please specify.....

South Australia:

In which country was the student born?

- Australia.....
- England.....
- New Zealand.....
- South Africa.....
- Philippines.....
- Viet Nam.....
- United States of America
- Bosnia and Herzegovina.....
- Thailand
- China
- Other – please specify.....

Western Australia:

In which country was the student born?

- Australia.....
- England.....
- New Zealand.....
- South Africa.....
- Malaysia
- Indonesia.....
- Singapore.....
- Scotland
- United States of America
- India.....
- Other – please specify.....

Tasmania:

In which country was the student born?

- Australia.....
- New Zealand.....
- England.....
- South Africa.....
- South Korea
- United States of America
- Philippines.....
- Other – please specify.....

Northern Territory:

In which country was the student born?

- Australia.....
- United States of America.....
- New Zealand.....
- Philippines.....
- England
- Other – please specify.....

Australian Capital Territory:

In which country was the student born?

- Australia.....
- England.....
- New Zealand.....
- United States of America.....
- China
- India.....
- Philippines.....
- South Korea
- Sri Lanka
- Hong Kong
- Other – please specify.....

ATTACHMENT 8: STANDARD AUSTRALIAN CLASSIFICATION OF COUNTRIES (SACC) CODING INDEX

This index is available for download in both [alphabetical](#) and [numeric](#) order formats.

A coding index is required to link responses from the 'Country of Birth' questions to the *Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC)* (ABS cat. no.1269.0) classification categories. Information provided in administrative collections does not always comprise the exact words used as the official names of classification categories in the SACC. A coding index is therefore necessary to act as a link between individual responses and the classification categories, enabling data to be coded accurately and quickly to the appropriate category in the classification.

The coding index has been developed to assist in the implementation and use of the classification and should be used when coding responses to questions relating to 'Country of birth'. The coding index has been devised by reference to relevant documents such as atlases, gazetteers, guides to countries, and most importantly, by analysis of ABS data collected over many years. It contains a comprehensive list of the most probable responses to questions relating to country and their correct classification codes.

Coding rules

A range of coding rules is applied in the coding index to facilitate accurate coding of responses to the SACC classification. These rules include:

Responses which relate directly to a country category but which contain information additional to that included in the coding index are allocated the code of that country category. Such instances include responses consisting of a full or formal country name (for example, Syrian Arab Republic is coded to Syria), or responses containing a geographic qualifier such as east or west (for example, South of England is coded to England).

Responses which relate directly to a country category but which consist of alternative spellings (for example, Tadjikistan for Tajikistan), abbreviations (for example, Aust. for Australia), acronyms (for example, FRY for the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia), or foreign language names (for example, Ceska Republika for the Czech Republic) are allocated the code of that country category. Similarly, slang or idiosyncratic responses (for example, Aussie or Oz for Australia) are allocated the code of the country category to which they directly relate.

If a response consists of an archaic or historical name (for example, Persia for Iran) it is necessary to determine the current country or geographic area to which the response relates and allocate the appropriate code: country, minor group, n.f.d. (not further defined); major group, n.f.d.; or inadequately described. It should be noted that special supplementary codes have been assigned to the recently defunct political entities of Eastern Europe (former USSR, former Czechoslovakia, etc.) and these codes are used rather than the standard supplementary codes.

Responses that cannot be identified as relating directly to a separately identified country in the classification are assigned a residual category code or a supplementary n.f.d. code. A response should only be coded to a residual category if it is clear that it belongs in that category. For example, responses which cannot be identified as relating directly to a particular country category, but which is known to be within the range of countries relating to a particular Minor Group, are coded to that Minor group and allocated an 'n.f.d.' code (for example, Northern America n.f.d. 8100). Responses that do not contain sufficient information to be coded to any category of the classification are assigned the appropriate inadequately described code. For example, 'Inadequately described' (0000), 'Not elsewhere classified' (0002) or 'Not stated' (0003) code.

Changes in national boundaries create coding difficulties. In order to maintain consistency of coding in all applications it is preferable that each country response be coded according to national boundaries existing at the time of the data collection. Therefore, all responses relating to a country which currently exists, but which has undergone boundary changes at some time in the past, are coded to the named country. For example, all persons who give their 'Country of birth' as 'Poland' are coded to Poland, even though the boundaries of Poland may have changed since they were born and they may have in fact been born in a place that is now in Germany. Birthplace responses that relate to particular cities or regions which are now in one country, but which may have been in another country at the time of birth, should be coded to the country the city or region is in at the time of collection of the data. For example, the response 'Danzig' is coded to Poland not to Germany.

Responses relating to countries that have changed name, without changing boundaries, are coded to the name in the current classification. Thus the response 'Upper Volta' is coded to 'Burkina Faso'.