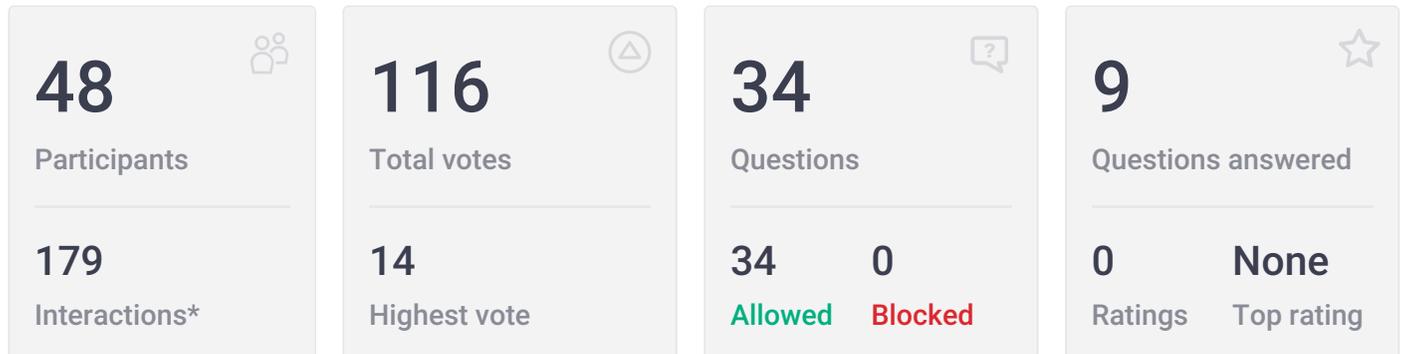


 Q&A

## NCEA Online Q&A

07 Dec 2018, 06:00 - 13 Dec 2018, 23:00

Ask us anything about NCEA Online. We'll answer the most popular questions as part of our presentation.



\* Interactions include the total number of questions, votes, comments and answer ratings

### 34 Questions Allowed

**14**  
VOTES

Jill hvhs • 11 Dec 2018 10:20 • ✓ ANSWERED  
**Are students or schools expected to provide a device for these assessments? I see issues either way.**

No answer ratings

**2 Comments:**

Anonymous • Allowed on 11 Dec 2018, 10:36 • Allowed

**Huge potential for inequality either way**

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

Geoff • Allowed on 11 Dec 2018, 13:12 • Allowed

**Yes. The decision to do online exams will be on a voluntary basis for some time. Equivalent paper exams will still be provided.**

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

12  
VOTES

Fiona • 11 Dec 2018 10:17 • ✓ ANSWERED

No answer ratings

How will students record a worked solution using a keyboard? I see notation being a challenge.

1 Comments:

Geoff • Allowed on 11 Dec 2018, 13:17 • Allowed

Task design might be of a style that the working is not as important as the explanation of why a particular method was used. Digital exams will change the type of questions asked.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

11  
VOTES

Anonymous • 11 Dec 2018 10:20 • ✓ ANSWERED

No answer ratings

Will you consider integrating with Desmos or other graphics technology?

1 Comments:

Geoff • Allowed on 11 Dec 2018, 13:18 • Allowed

Definitely. This is a major strength of digital assessment.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

9  
VOTES

Derek • 11 Dec 2018 08:21 • ✓ ANSWERED

No answer ratings

Are there indications that a soft keypad for formula etc will be a tool for candidates in mathematics, statistics and science

9  
VOTES

Mike camden • 10 Dec 2018 14:57 • ✓ ANSWERED

No answer ratings

What new skills in Maths and Stats can you assess by enabling the examinee to interact with the tools of the trade, during the assessment?

8  
VOTES

Peter • 11 Dec 2018 10:25 • ✓ ANSWERED

No answer ratings

What research has been undertaken into what constitutes a good assessment item for an online environment?

6  
VOTES

Anonymous • 10 Dec 2018 14:06 • ✓ ANSWERED

No answer ratings

How are they going to ensure that servers won't glitch?

---

**5**  
VOTES

Anonymous • 11 Dec 2018 10:23

Would touch screen with a stylus be used

**1 Comments:**

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 12:28 • Allowed

This is certainly a possibility for the future, though it depends on whether equity of access can be achieved; i.e. an equivalent experience for those students who don't have access to touch screen functionality. Students we have spoken to have identified this as something they would like to see for digital exams.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

**5**  
VOTES

Anonymous • 11 Dec 2018 10:29

Are we providing a platform where students will be able to draw graphs to better visualise word question such as area questions at Level 1 or Level 2 calculus questions?

**1 Comments:**

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 12:27 • Allowed

Graphing tools were investigated in our recent L1 Digital Science Trial and are a real possibility for digital maths assessments.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

**5**  
VOTES

Peter free • 11 Dec 2018 10:29

Will there be online practice exams?

**1 Comments:**

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 12:25 • Allowed

There won't be Trial exams like we have offered in previous years, but there will be online familiarisation activities available.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

**4**  
VOTES

Derek • 11 Dec 2018 08:19

Did anyone from NZQA attend the e-Exam Symposium 2018?

**1 Comments:**

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 12:28 • Allowed

No, this wasn't on our radar. Thank you for bringing it to our attention!

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

**3**  
VOTES

Fiona • 11 Dec 2018 10:19

Perhaps a way around notation in solutions is pen and paper, then choose a multi-choice or numerical answer. But not focused on METHOD - against the new philosophy?

**1 Comments:**

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 12:30 • Allowed

The style of examination is yet to be decided. It is a possibility that we could explore, so long as it is compatible with the requirements of the Achievement Standard.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

**3**  
VOTES

Anonymous • 11 Dec 2018 10:40

Will all exam marking be done online?

**1 Comments:**

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 12:29 • Allowed

Yes, for online exams and potentially for all exams.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

**2**  
VOTES

Mike camden • 10 Dec 2018 14:59

What software tools and objects would you provide during the digital assessment?

**1 Comments:**

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 12:37 • Allowed

For maths, we don't know yet – this is one of the things we'd love your ideas on. If there are digital tools being used in the classroom then we can use them in our assessments too.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

**2**  
VOTES

Anonymous • 11 Dec 2018 10:20

Will handwriting software be used

**1 Comments:**

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 12:35 • Allowed

Not in the short term, but this is something that is being investigated as a possibility.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

2  
VOTES

Anonymous • 11 Dec 2018 10:21

How will students learn to manage the various operations/functions that are specific to mathematics? I am thinking powers, roots, fractional expressions not to mention integral signs and calculus?

1 Comments:

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 12:35 • Allowed

If specific features are contained within mathematics examinations, NZQA has in the past provided practice assessments where students can familiarise themselves with the tools. NZQA is looking to introduce digital assessment only where teachers are routinely using digital methods in the classroom; when appropriate platforms are available for teaching/learning then we will look to build on that. Students who regularly use digital technology day-to-day will then be able to transfer this to assessments.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

2  
VOTES

Anonymous • 11 Dec 2018 10:27

Will schools and colleges be funded for the requisite technology that will allow sufficiently for whole-of-college use?

1 Comments:

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 12:34 • Allowed

Funding is provided by the Ministry of Education either directly (e.g. school wifi upgrades), or indirectly through the operations grant that has a technology component. Funding is also provided through philanthropic and local arrangements and by parents for provision of Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) in some schools.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

2  
VOTES

Anonymous • 11 Dec 2018 10:31 • ✓ ANSWERED

No answer ratings

How do we adapt the assessment to students who do no longer type but use dictation ?

---

2  
VOTES

Anonymous • 11 Dec 2018 10:38

How do the universities integrate software into their courses

1 Comments:

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 12:32 • Allowed

We are aware that universities are at various stages of implementing online functionality into their courses but don't have specific information on this.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

**2**  
VOTES

Jill hvhs • 11 Dec 2018 10:45

Does NZQA discuss with MOE re funding for devices within schools?

**1 Comments:**

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 12:31 • Allowed

MoE understands the technical capability requirements schools need to support delivery of the curriculum with digital support and these are funded directly (e.g. school wifi upgrades), indirectly (through the operations grant, which has a technology component), through philanthropic and local purchasing arrangements and by parents (BYOD). The important thing is that it is digital learning, not digital assessment, that drives the requirement for devices, and yes, NZQA discusses this with the Ministry.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

**2**  
VOTES

Anonymous • 10 Dec 2018 14:07

How are you going to deal with algebraic formula as this was not done well in the trial?

**1 Comments:**

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 12:38 • Allowed

This was discussed in the session and is certainly acknowledged as something to work on.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

**1**  
VOTES

Anonymous • 11 Dec 2018 10:25 • **ANSWERED**

No answer ratings

How have European countries' education experiences played out with respect to digital assessment?

---

**1**  
VOTES

Jill hvhs • 11 Dec 2018 10:38

Do all standards within a subject need to be made digital at the same time?

**1 Comments:**

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 12:56 • Allowed

Not necessarily. We would look to prioritise the standards that lend themselves more easily to digital assessment. This is something we will be considering.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

**1**  
VOTES

Anonymous • 11 Dec 2018 10:39

Is there an assumption that all learners will teach themselves to type?

**1 Comments:**

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 12:56 • Allowed

Yes – there are free online tutorials which students have told us work well. And, if students are doing digital examinations it will be because they have been typing their classroom work and internal assessments. If schools are requiring students to use computers on a regular basis then they might already be providing computer and keyboarding skills so their students can make the best use of the technology.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

**1**  
VOTES

Barb shgcnp • 11 Dec 2018 10:42

Is there a move to digital assessment in our universities?

**1 Comments:**

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 12:55 • Allowed

Most of the universities are doing some form of digital assessment for some subjects. NZQA has ongoing contact with the universities on this topic.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

**1**  
VOTES

Jill hvhs • 11 Dec 2018 10:43

Do students doing digital assessments have a built in calculator, or are they still using physical calculators?

**1 Comments:**

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 12:54 • Allowed

To date, they have been using physical calculators, but we have recently trialled the use of Desmos graphing calculators with Manurewa High School and see that as something that may be built into eventual digital assessment for maths and statistics.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

**1**  
VOTES

Anonymous • 11 Dec 2018 10:57

Have you compared results of digital with traditional

**1 Comments:**

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 12:54 • Allowed

As part of our Trials and Pilots evaluation in 2016 and 2017 we ran psychometric analysis of the L1 English digital exams. These can be accessed here:

<https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/about-us/future-state/previous-digital-trials-and-pilots/>

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

0  
VOTES

Derek • 12 Dec 2018 06:16

See [http://transformingassessment.com/e-exam\\_symposium\\_2018.php](http://transformingassessment.com/e-exam_symposium_2018.php)

---

0  
VOTES

Anonymous • 11 Dec 2018 10:29

To move to maths with working. will we need write on devices like iPads?

**1 Comments:**

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 13:04 • Allowed

So far, iPads and touch screen portable devices have not provided the most optimal experience for digital exams. This is something we are looking into for the future though, as it does seem to lend itself well to maths working on a digital platform.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

0  
VOTES

Anonymous • 11 Dec 2018 10:39

Have you thought of a way to ensure that students are not just answering using pen and paper and then uploading the answer, thus defeating the whole purpose of online assessment?

**2 Comments:**

Peter free • Allowed on 11 Dec 2018, 10:52 • Allowed

Maybe we do need to reintroduce typing as a subject.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 13:03 • Allowed

The double-handling you describe was one of the findings from the e-MCAT Trials and Pilots and, as discussed at the event, it is something that will need to be addressed before online assessment for maths can be realised. This is clearly inefficient use of students' time if they have to write their answer twice, and so it is not seen as a useful way forward. We would want any move to digital to occur only if it is in the best interests of students.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

0  
VOTES

Jill hvhs • 11 Dec 2018 10:50

Have digital assessments thus far required students to show multiple lines of working?

1 Comments:

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 13:02 • Allowed

Digital assessments so far have mostly been those requiring essay style answers. Assessments requiring lines of working have proved too cumbersome with the present tools. This is why Maths and Sciences have not been included for digital examinations at present. The Science Trial and the earlier e-MCAT required students to show algebraic working, and we know that with keyboard-based responses students find this less convenient than doing the same on paper.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

0  
VOTES

Peter free • 11 Dec 2018 10:56

Are you able to give us an indication of an amended timeline for when other subject exams will be digitalised and when Maths might be digitalised. How much will be expected of schools in 2021?

1 Comments:

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 12:59 • Allowed

We know what will be offered in 2019 and a good understanding of what will be offered in 2020, though this needs to be confirmed. Currently, there are no timelines as to when digital maths assessments will be made available. NZQA is adopting a planned, staged, managed approach to its NCEA Online programme. As schools gain confidence in completing text-based exams and technology evolves, we will look at those subjects where special characters are required, such as mathematics, science and music.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

0  
VOTES

Peter free • 11 Dec 2018 10:57

Are we talking about all assessments. Internal and external. And can students/schools mix and match which assessments are done on line and which are answered more conventionally.

1 Comments:

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 12:58 • Allowed

In the early years it will be external assessments only. From NZQA's perspective, students will be able to opt in to sit a particular standard; schools may adopt a different approach and prepare students to sit all the available standards online.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---

**0**  
VOTES

Peter free • 11 Dec 2018 10:58

**Will digital assessments ultimately mean less marking for teachers?**

**1 Comments:**

Nzqa • Allowed on 13 Dec 2018, 12:57 • Allowed

The marking administration time is expected to decrease. Apart from the fact that some student scripts may be easier to read if typed, markers are likely to spend a similar amount of time actually assessing the work. There is a possibility that automated computer marking could be developed in future for some subjects but the widespread use of this would require a change in approach to how NCEA assessments are currently developed and marked.

0 Upvotes | 0 Downvotes

---