2010 PRC/NAPLAN results

In the results for the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) in 2009 and reinforced again in 2010, DECS students completing the Challenge in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 showed better rates of reading growth over the past two years than DECS students who did not participate in the Challenge.

Students participating in the Challenge had a larger percentage in the ‘High growth’ category and lower percentages in the ‘Low growth’ category across all year levels examined. While the Challenge is just one of many literacy activities that may be contributing to these results, the result clearly supports the notion that consistent reading is one way for a student to improve their reading skills. The Challenge clearly provides a valuable vehicle for helping educators achieve this outcome. The growth distributions for all year levels are represented in Figures 1 and 2.

The results for Years 3, 5 and 7 demonstrated that the Challenge is attracting students from all ability levels, not just those who are in the upper bands for reading. In Year 9 there were more students participating from the upper bands.

Figures 1 and 2