

# *My School* Version 2

**acara** AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM,  
ASSESSMENT AND  
REPORTING AUTHORITY

# Introduction to *My School* version 2

- *My School* has undergone a number of changes since its first release in January 2010. These changes reflect decisions by Ministers for Education, as well as feedback from stakeholder and consumer groups and the availability of more nationally consistent data. In particular, advice was provided by the *My School* Working Party, comprising teacher, principal, and parent representatives, plus others with relevant expertise.
- *My School* version 2 includes a number of enhancements to provide more information about the almost 10,000 Australian schools. These can be searched on the website using the school's location, sector or name. There are now eight menu items, or pages, for each school on the site, that users can navigate through in any order. This presentation includes screen shots to provide an introduction to the look and structure of version 2 of the *My School* site.
- Another important feature is the introduction of increased security measures to protect the integrity of the site and guard against the misuse of information. Visitors to the site will now be required to agree to a click-wrap terms and conditions of use before entering a school search. Other security tools will also be in place.

**Welcome**

*My School* enables you to search the profiles of almost 10,000 Australian schools.

You can quickly locate statistical and contextual information about schools in your community and compare them with statistically similar schools across the country.

**A note from ACARA**

The *My School* website has two main purposes.

First, it provides parents and students with information on each school – its view of itself and its mission, its staffing, its resources and its students' characteristics and their performances.

Secondly, it provides schools and their communities with comparisons of their students' performances in literacy and numeracy with those of students in other schools, most importantly those in schools that serve similar students. These comparisons provide information to support improvements in schools. Among schools with similar students, those achieving higher student performances can stimulate others to lift expectations of what they and their students can achieve. The schools with higher performing students can be a source of information for others on the policies and practices that produce those higher performances.

Professor Barry McGaw AO  
Chair  
ACARA

**Find a school**

Search by school name

GO

Search by suburb, town or postcode

 Sector  Government  
 Non-government

SEARCH

**What's new**

New features in this December 2010 release of *My School* include:

- an easy-to-use summary page with key facts and figures,
- financial information for each school,
- an indication of students' literacy and numeracy improvement as they progress through school,
- students' NAPLAN performance over a number of years.

# Landing page

- The landing page is similar to version 1.
- There is a new message from Professor Barry McGaw, Chair of ACARA, introducing the site and outlining its purpose. New features are also listed.

- School profile
- School finances
- NAPLAN
- Local schools

## Mylocal School, Suburb Reef, NSW

### School profile

[Visit the school website](#)

#### School comments

Mylocal school is a large comprehensive co-educational high school in the north western suburbs of NSW. Although it is located in an area well known for its highly regarded schools, including selective, single-sex and non-government schools, Mylocal school has experienced a steadily increasing enrolment during the last few years. The school prides itself on academic, vocational, cultural and sporting success. With a focus on Quality Teaching, it aims to meet the needs of students in a technology rich environment. For the last four years Extension classes have been established in our Stage 4 curriculum and Extension courses are available in Stage 6 across a broad curriculum range for our talented students. There are high expectations for student learning, behaviour and school uniform. Sixty eight per cent of students are from a language background other than English. Mylocal school's mission is to develop considerate, responsible people who can learn

#### School facts: 2010

School sector	Government
School type	Secondary
Year range	7-12
Total enrolments	1244
Location	Metropolitan

#### School staff: 2010

Teaching staff	87
Full-time equivalent teaching staff	85.8
Non-teaching staff	15

#### School finances: 2009

Total recurrent income	\$12,723,215
Per student income	\$10,228
Total capital expenditure	\$2,233,423

#### Links

School website:	<a href="http://myschool.edu.au">myschool.edu.au</a>
Sector or system website:	<a href="http://mysector.com.au">mysector.com.au</a>

#### Student background: 2010

<a href="#">ICSEA (Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage)</a>			
School ICSEA value	983		
Average ICSEA value	1000		
Distribution of students	Bottom quarter	Middle quarters	Top quarter
School distribution	19%	31%	26%
Australian distribution	25%	25%	25%

#### Students: 2010

Total enrolments	1244
Girls	598
Boys	646
Full-time equivalent enrolments	1242.8
Indigenous students	3%
Language background other than English	2%
Student attendance rate	94%

#### Senior secondary outcomes: 2009

Senior secondary certificate awarded	198
Completed senior secondary school	200
<a href="#">Vocational Education and Training (VET)</a>	
Awarded VET qualification	35
Undertook <a href="#">AsEA</a>	0
<a href="#">Post school destinations</a>	
Students at university	31%
Students at TAFE/vocational study	11%
Students in employment	24%



<sup>1</sup>Data presented on this website should be read in conjunction with the notes and caveats provided

## School Profile page

- The page provides important information about the school including school type, enrolments, attendance rates, staff numbers, and information about the student population such as the number of boys and girls and the percentage of students from a language background other than English. There is an expanded commentary about the school, information about senior secondary outcomes and a link to the school website.
- Icons at the base of the page provide a direct link to school finances, NAPLAN results, student progress, similar and local schools. This is a new feature throughout the site to ensure easy navigation.

# ICSEA formula enhancements

- At the request of education Ministers, ACARA has developed a method of calculating each school's Index of Community Socio Educational Advantage (ICSEA) that makes use of direct student-level information, where this is available, rather than indirect Australian Bureau of Statistics census collection district data.
- The new ICSEA formula has been strengthened by the inclusion of a factor reflecting the proportion of students at a school from a language background other than English. Other factors included in the previous ICSEA formula, such as the remoteness of the school and proportion of Indigenous students, have been retained.
- ICSEA is an important element of the *My School* site as it provides a mechanism for presenting meaningful comparisons between the NAPLAN achievement of schools serving students from statistically similar backgrounds.

- School profile
- School finances
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**Mylocal School, Suburb Reef, NSW**

Full time equivalent (FTE) funded enrolments (2009): 751

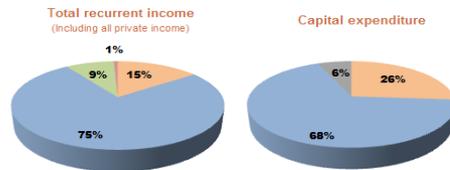
**School finances 2009**

**Interpreting school financial information**

The following table and charts summarise the recurrent and other income of schools together with their capital expenditure for the 2009 calendar year. Caution should be taken in using the information presented below when making direct funding comparisons between schools. The financial resources available to schools are directly influenced by the nature of the school (including its location and profile), its programs and its operations. For further information on the methods used and on the comparability of the data [click here](#).

	Total	Per student
<b>Recurrent income 2009</b>		
Australian Government recurrent funding	\$1,921,049	\$1,544
State/Territory Government recurrent funding	\$9,714,436	\$7,809
Fees, charges and parent contributions	\$1,136,115	\$913
Other private sources	\$91,944	\$74
<b>Total recurrent income (including all private income)</b>	<b>\$12,863,543</b>	<b>\$10,340</b>
Less <a href="#">Deductions</a>	\$140,329	\$113
<b>Total net recurrent income</b>	<b>\$12,723,215</b>	<b>\$10,228</b>

	Total
<b>Capital expenditure 2009</b>	
Australian Government capital expenditure	\$584,946
State/Territory Government capital expenditure	\$1,508,149
New school loans	\$0
Income allocated to capital projects	\$140,329
Other	\$0
<b>Total capital expenditure</b>	<b>\$2,233,423</b>



Further information



# School Finances

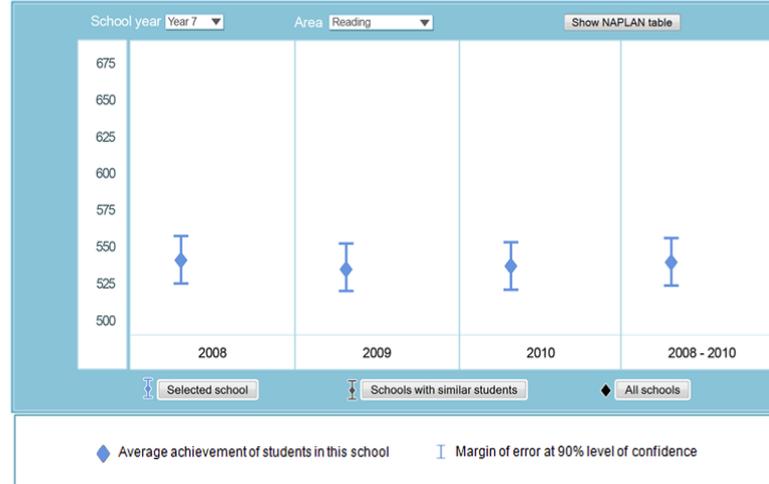
- ACARA has worked closely with the Australian Government, state and territory jurisdictions, systems and sectors to collect school financial data to be displayed on the *My School* website.
- The 2009 recurrent income and capital expenditure are displayed for each school, broken down by source of funding.
- This is the first time that such information has been available within Australia.
- A link to detailed information on the methodology used to develop comparable financial data is provided on the site.

## Mylocal School, Suburb Reef, NSW

## NAPLAN chart

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses all students in Australian schools in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. [Visit the NAPLAN website.](#)

	2008	2009	2010	2008 - 2010 Average
Exempt from test	-	0.7%	1.1%	1.2%
Absent	-	2.8%	3.1%	2.9%
Withdrawn	-	0.1%	0.6%	0.3%
Participation	98%	96%	98%	97%
Australian average participation	97%	95%	97%	97%



# NAPLAN Results

- A new graphical depiction provides an alternative way to view a school's NAPLAN performances.
- Results across three years as well as an average of results from 2008 – 2010 are displayed.
- Dropdown menus are used to select Year level and test domain.
- The NAPLAN graph displays averages and margins of error for results.
- This page includes a prominent display of test participation information.

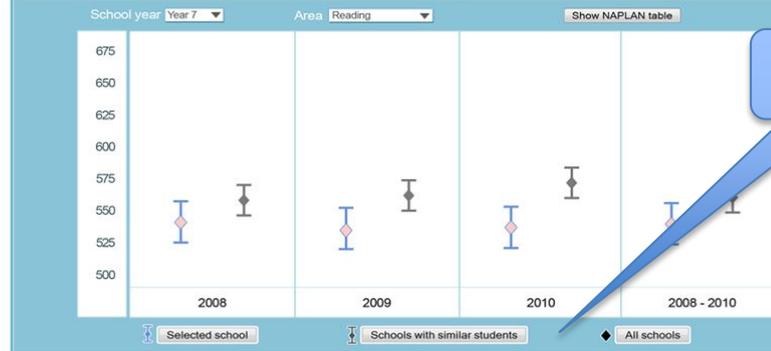
- School profile
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Mylocal School, Suburb Reef, NSW

NAPLAN chart

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◆ Average achievement of students in this school  
 I Margin of error at 90% level of confidence  
 I Average achievement in schools with similar students (statistically similar schools) and margin of error at 90% level of confidence  
 Selected school's average is  
 ◆ substantially above  
 ◆ above  
 ◆ close to  
 ◆ below  
 ◆ substantially below  
 the average for schools with similar students (statistically similar schools)



# NAPLAN Results with comparisons options selected

- By selecting the 'Schools with similar students' function, a comparison between the selected school and the performance of schools serving students from statistically similar backgrounds is displayed.
- By selecting the 'All schools' option, a comparison between the selected school and the average of all schools will be displayed.
- In both cases, colours indicate the magnitude of the performance differences.

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**Mylocal School, Suburb Reef, NSW**

**NAPLAN table**

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses all students in Australian schools in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. [Visit the NAPLAN website.](#)

2010		2009		2008						
Change colour						Show NAPLAN chart				
	Reading		Writing		Spelling		Grammar & Punctuation		Numeracy	
Year 7	538 521 - 555		553 536 - 570		571 554 - 588		542 525 - 559		588 571 - 605	
	SIM 572 559 - 585	ALL 546 541 - 567	SIM 554 541 - 567	ALL 533	SIM 562 549 - 575	ALL 545	SIM 561 548 - 574	ALL 535	SIM 578 565 - 591	ALL 548
	573 556 - 590		559 542 - 576		598 581 - 615		586 569 - 603		637 620 - 654	
Year 9	573 556 - 590		559 542 - 576		598 581 - 615		586 569 - 603		637 620 - 654	
	SIM 601 599 - 603	ALL 574	SIM 576 574 - 578	ALL 568	SIM 594 591 - 596	ALL 578	SIM 597 594 - 599	ALL 579	SIM 616 613 - 618	ALL 585
	573 556 - 590		559 542 - 576		598 581 - 615		586 569 - 603		637 620 - 654	

Selected school's average

**SIM** Schools with similar students

**ALL** Australian schools' average

Selected school's average is

- substantially above
- above
- close to
- below
- substantially below

these schools' average

Student population below reporting threshold

Year level not tested

**How to interpret this chart**

Selected average

Colour shows if the selected school's average is above or below statistically similar schools' average

Margin of error at 90% level of confidence

Colour shows if the selected school's average is above or below the Australian schools' average

Average and margin of error at 90% level of confidence for statistically similar schools

Australian schools' average

[Tell me more](#)



# NAPLAN Table

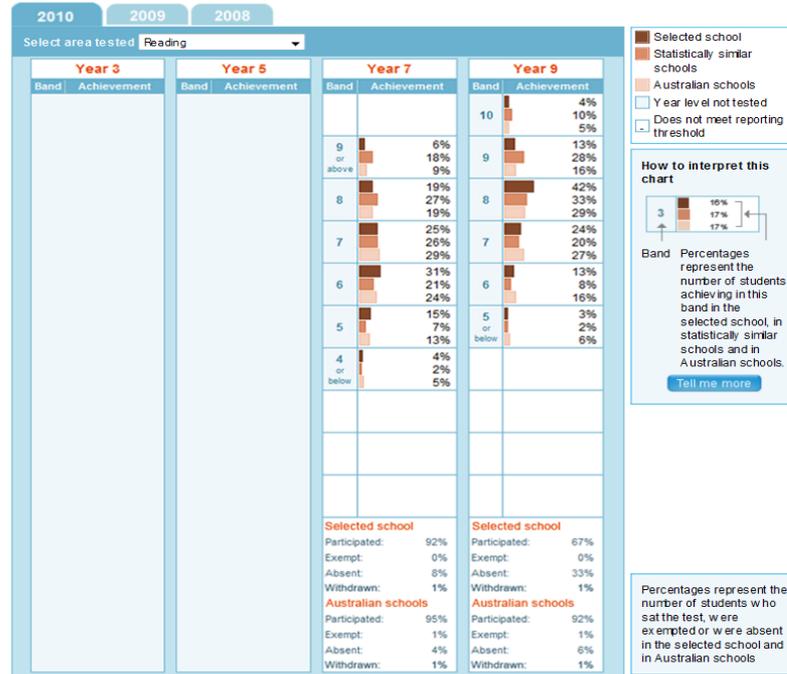
- The original NAPLAN table is still available to site users.
- It provides a complete summary of all domains and year levels.
- The table now includes margins of error for greater statistical clarity.
- Alternative colour options are available for people with visual colour impairment.

- School profile
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**Mylocal School, Suburb Reef, NSW**

**Results in bands**

NAPLAN results are reported in bands. For more information about bands, [visit the NAPLAN website](#).  
The chart below shows the school's results for the five domains at each year level in 2008, 2009 and 2010. It displays the percentage of students achieving in each band, as well as the percentage of students in statistically similar schools and the percentage of students in Australian schools achieving in each band.



- School finances
- Chart
- Table
- Student progress
- Similar schools
- Local schools

# Results in Bands

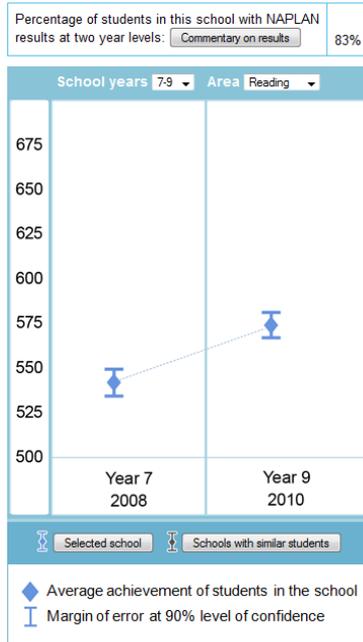
- The results in bands page is presented in the same way as in the previous version of *My School*.
- It displays the percentage of students achieving in each band, as well as the percentage of students in statistically similar schools and the percentage of students in all schools achieving in each band for the five domains.

- School profile
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**Mylocal School, Suburb Reef, NSW**

**Student progress**

Student progress is measured for students identified as being in the same school for NAPLAN tests at two year levels. Student progress is reported in Reading, Writing and Numeracy. A progress measure will not be reported for some schools, for example, in secondary schools that do not include Year 7.



# Student Progress

2010 offers the first opportunity to track the progress of students who undertook NAPLAN in both 2010 and 2008.

The progress made by students in each school is displayed for:

- Year 5 students who also sat NAPLAN in the same school in Year 3
- Year 7 students who also sat NAPLAN in the same school in Year 5
- Year 9 students who also sat NAPLAN in the same school in Year 7

A comparison between the school's student progress and that of schools serving students from similar backgrounds is provided.

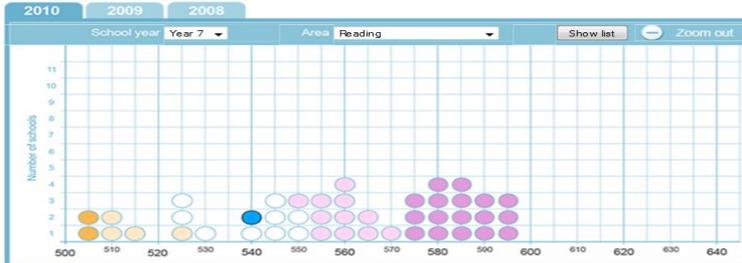
This is an important indicator of school performance.

**Mylocal School, Suburb Reef, NSW**

**Schools with similar students**

Schools with similar students ('statistically similar schools') are schools across Australia with a number of factors in common such as the social and economic background of the students, whether the school is remote, the proportion of Indigenous students, or a combination of these factors. For more information on the method used to identify statistically similar schools, [click here](#).

This chart compares the average achievement of students from the school with the average achievement of students from statistically similar schools. The colours indicate whether the selected school's average score is above (gold), close to (clear), or below (pink) the other school's scores.



Zoom out View these schools relative to all Australian schools

- Selected school
- Selected school's average is substantially above
- above
- close to
- below
- substantially below
- the average for schools with similar students (statistically similar schools)

**How to interpret this chart**

- Selected school's average
- Margin of error at 90% level of confidence
- Substantially above:** 0.5 or more standard deviations above the average
- Above:** 0.2 or more, but less than 0.5, standard deviations above the average
- Close to:** within 0.2 standard deviations from the average
- Below:** 0.2 or more, but less than 0.5, standard deviations below the average
- Substantially below:** 0.5 or more standard deviations below the average



# Statistically Similar Schools

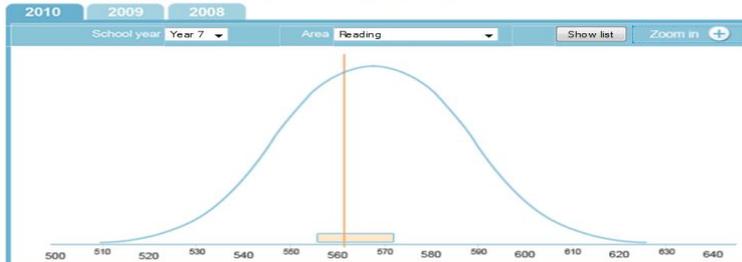
- A graph is now used to depict the achievement of students at the selected school in comparison with schools that serve students from statistically similar backgrounds (based on ICSEA).
- Colours are used to indicate the magnitude of the performance differences.
- There is a scroll-over function that displays the NAPLAN result for each school on the graph and provides a link to that school's profile.

## Mylocal School, Suburb Reef, NSW

## Schools with similar students

Schools with similar students ('statistically similar schools') are schools across Australia with a number of factors in common such as the social and economic background of the students, whether the school is remote, the proportion of Indigenous students, or a combination of these factors. For more information on the method used to identify statistically similar schools, [click here](#).

This chart shows selected school and group of statistically similar schools in relation to the Australian population. The curve describes the proportion of schools that achieved each scaled score.



Zoom in View schools with similar students in more detail

- The distribution of Australian schools' average scores in the selected domain
- Selected school
- Range of similar schools

Quisque feugiat, sem eu egestas scelerisque, nulla nunc consequat turpis, id dictum ipsum odio eu erat. Donec bibendum massa sed libero vulputate luctus. Donec aliquet luctus lorem. Suspendisse potenti. Duis dolor felis, elementum a mollis ut, tempus ut ante.

## How to interpret this chart



This chart shows selected school and group of statistically similar schools in relation to the Australian population. The curve describes the proportion of schools that achieved each scaled score.



# Statistically Similar Schools – zoom out view

- When the 'Zoom out' button on the previous page is clicked, the location of the statistically similar schools group in relation to all schools is shown.
- A 'Show list' button takes the user to an alphabetical list of schools serving students from statistically similar backgrounds.
- For schools that perform at the top of their statistically similar schools' group, the scope for improvement can be seen.

**Mylocal School, Suburb Reef, NSW**

**Schools with similar students**

Statistically similar schools are schools across Australia with a number of factors in common such as the social and economic background of the students, whether the school is remote, the proportion of indigenous students, or a combination of these factors. For more information on the method used to identify statistically similar schools, [click here](#).

This chart indicates the relative position of the focus school and its statistically similar schools group relative to all the schools for that calendar year, domain and cohort.

2010 | 2009 | 2008

Select area tested: **Reading**

Show graph

**Reading**

Statistically similar schools (listed alphabetically)

<b>▶ Mylocal school, NSW</b>
A <a href="#">High School</a> , Suburb STATE 5123
B <a href="#">High School</a> , Suburb STATE 5124
C <a href="#">High School</a> , Suburb STATE 5125
D <a href="#">High School</a> , Suburb STATE 5126
E <a href="#">High School</a> , Suburb STATE 5127
F <a href="#">High School</a> , Suburb STATE 5128
G <a href="#">High School</a> , Suburb STATE 5129
H <a href="#">High School</a> , Suburb STATE 5130
I <a href="#">High School</a> , Suburb STATE 5131
J <a href="#">High School</a> , Suburb STATE 5132
K <a href="#">High School</a> , Suburb STATE 5133
L <a href="#">High School</a> , Suburb STATE 5134
M <a href="#">High School</a> , Suburb STATE 5135
N <a href="#">High School</a> , Suburb STATE 5136
O <a href="#">High School</a> , Suburb STATE 5137
P <a href="#">High School</a> , Suburb STATE 5138
Q <a href="#">High School</a> , Suburb STATE 5139

ICSEA is recalculated for all schools on an annual basis.



# Statistically Similar Schools page

- This page provides an alphabetical list of schools that serve students from statistically similar backgrounds with links to each school's page.
- It includes a 'Show graph' button that allows the user to return to the previous page.

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## Mylocal School, Suburb Reef, NSW

### Local schools

Up to 20 schools within 80 kilometres of the selected school are listed below. You can sort the columns by clicking on each of the column headers.

Name	Suburb	State	Postcode	Distance (km)
<a href="#">MySchool Primary School</a>	Suburb Reef	NSA	8257	< 1
<a href="#">MySchool Primary School</a>	My Suburb	NSA	8257	< 1
<a href="#">MySchool Primary School</a>	Suburb Reef	NSA	8257	< 1
<a href="#">MySchool Primary School</a>	Suburb Reef	NSA	8257	< 1
<a href="#">MySchool Primary School</a>	My Suburb	NSA	8257	1.3
<a href="#">MySchool Primary School</a>	Suburb Reef	NSA	8257	1.3
<a href="#">MySchool Primary School</a>	My Suburb	NSA	8257	2.1
<a href="#">MySchool Primary School</a>	My Suburb	NSA	8257	2.4
<a href="#">MySchool Primary School</a>	Suburb Reef	NSA	8257	2.5
<a href="#">MySchool Primary School</a>	My Suburb	NSA	8257	2.6
<a href="#">MySchool Primary School</a>	My Suburb	NSA	8257	2.7
<a href="#">MySchool Primary School</a>	Suburb Reef	NSA	8257	2.8
<a href="#">MySchool Primary School</a>	My Suburb	NSA	8257	2.8
<a href="#">MySchool Primary School</a>	My Suburb	NSA	8257	2.8
<a href="#">MySchool Primary School</a>	Suburb Reef	NSA	8257	2.8
<a href="#">MySchool Primary School</a>	My Suburb	NSA	8257	2.8
<a href="#">MySchool Primary School</a>	Suburb Reef	NSA	8257	3.1
<a href="#">MySchool Primary School</a>	My Suburb	NSA	8257	3.7
<a href="#">MySchool Primary School</a>	Suburb Reef	NSA	8257	3.7
<a href="#">MySchool Primary School</a>	My Suburb	NSA	8257	3.8



# Local Schools

- This page is unchanged in concept from Version 1, providing a list of up to 20 schools within 80 kilometres of the selected school.