

# Revealed: The most improved schools across Northern Sydney

**After much number crunching NewsLocal can reveal the most improved schools over the last five years across Sydney. See the full list and where your school came.**

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An independent analysis of five years of NAPLAN results have revealed the schools that improved most in the Northern Sydney region.

The independent analysis, which compiled data from the Federal Government's My School website, looked at scores from the year 5 and year 9 tests between 2014 and 2018.

The Northern Sydney school that improved its year 5 results the most since 2014 was

St Rose Catholic Primary School, in Collaroy Plateau, where average results improved by 11.9 per cent across all subjects.

By comparison the average year five NAPLAN improvement across the state was just 0.25 per cent and 0.39 per cent across the Northern Sydney region.



St Rose Catholic Primary School improved their year five NAPLAN scores more than any other school in Northern Sydney.

The biggest improvement made by St Rose was in the year five grammar test, as grammar results jumped 134 points since 2014.

The next biggest improvement was in reading, which jumped 77 points, followed by numeracy which climbed 51 points.

## NSW

### Northern Sydney

Primary

Secondary

Suburb

School Name

Filters

### Northern Sydney, NSW - NAPLAN Results Five-Year Change

School	Suburb	Y5 Average	Y5 Change %	
<b>St Rose Catholic Primary School</b>	Collaroy Plateau	2,719	11.94	
<b>Meadowbank Public School</b>	Ryde	2,605	7.91	2
<b>St Kevin's Catholic Primary School</b>	Dee Why	2,569	7.85	
<b>St Therese's Catholic Primary School</b>	Denistone	2,537	7.59	4
<b>Hornsby North Public School</b>	Hornsby	2,900	6.76	
<b>Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Primary School</b>	Chatswood	2,660	6.71	6
<b>Epping Heights Public School</b>	Epping	2,794	6.56	
<b>Arden Anglican School</b>	Epping	2,799	6.54	8
<b>Melrose Park Public School</b>	West Ryde	2,487	6.44	
<b>Northcross Christian School</b>	Ryde	2,833	6.41	10

1-10 / 172

Number of schools: 172

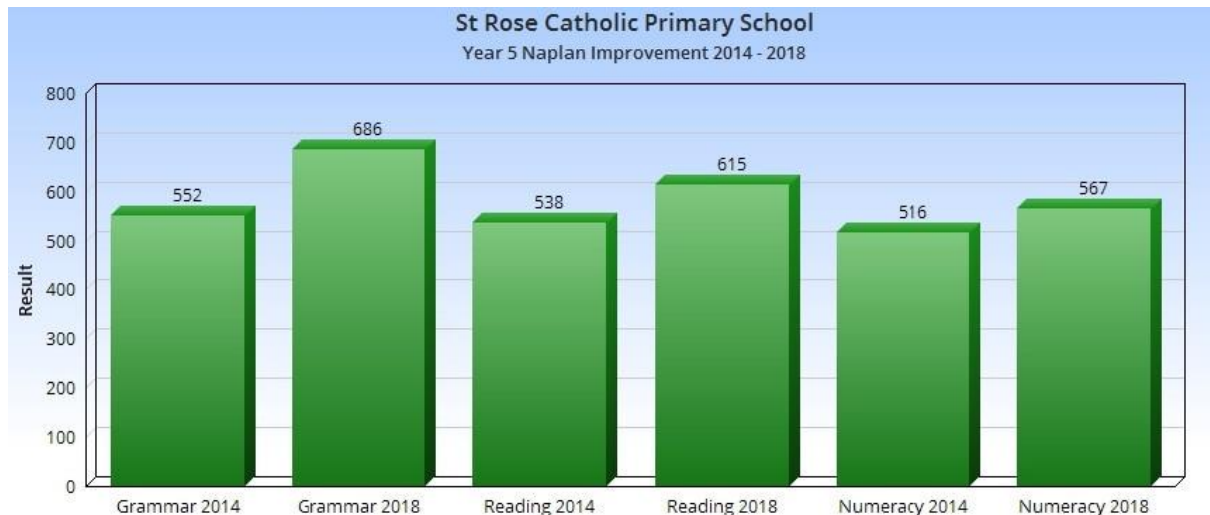
NAPLAN performance has been calculated by finding each school's yearly average total over five years. Five year change has been calculated by finding the percentage change between a school's NAPLAN scores over five years.

Queensland schools cover the 2015 to 2019 period. Schools in all other states and territories cover the 2014 to 2018 period.

A school was excluded from the analysis if it had fewer than 20 students, is a special school, or it did not have scores listed on MySchool for each NAPLAN subject over the relevant period.

Source: [myschool.edu.au](https://myschool.edu.au)

Principal of St Rose Catholic Primary School, Josie Vescio, highlighted "early identification and intervention for each student's learning strengths" as integral to improvements in grammar and reading, and this starts before the pupils even reach kindergarten.



St Rose Catholic Primary School's growth in the grammar, reading and numeracy sections of the NAPLAN test over five years.

"Our 'Transition to School' program ... ensure[s] we develop a profile of the student at entry point, tailor learning experiences that will close the gaps and improve reading skills core to all learning," she said.

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Ms Vescio also praised the efforts of parents consolidating the efforts in the classroom through home learning.

"Our parents and teachers collaborate to form a wraparound model to enable children to achieve outcomes," Ms Vescio said.

"Parents regularly help out in the classrooms and they have an understanding of the strategies teachers use to deepen the students' learning."



Parents regularly help out in the classroom or during special events such as Book Week at St Rose. Photo: Virginia Young

St Rose Catholic Primary School has a library program where year five students are responsible for collecting and re-homing returned books, encouraging them to use the library facilities.



The school's co-curricular meditation initiative has also provided students with the tools to increase focus and remain calm in stressful situations such as NAPLAN testing.



St Rose students enjoying books in the library.

Despite having the biggest year five NAPLAN improvement in the area, Ms Vescio identified key learning areas she hopes the school will continue to improve.

“We have identified spelling and sentence structure, in writing, as areas of continued focus,” she said. “Through working mathematically we aim to improve students’ problem solving, reasoning and creative thinking skills.”



St Rose Catholic Primary School students.

Special schools, schools with fewer than 20 students enrolled in either year, and schools that did not report any results for NAPLAN subjects in either year were excluded from the analysis.

**Northern Sydney's top 10 Year 5 NAPLAN improvers over five years:**

1. St Rose Catholic Primary School: 11.9 per cent
2. Meadowbank Public School: 7.9 per cent
3. St Kevin's Catholic Primary School: 7.8 per cent
4. St Therese's Catholic Primary School: 7.6 per cent
5. Hornsby North Public School: 6.8 per cent
6. Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Primary School: 6.7 per cent
7. Epping Heights Public School: 6.6 per cent
8. Arden Anglican School: 6.5 per cent
9. Melrose Park Public School: 6.4 per cent
10. Northcross Christian School: 6.4 per cent

