



VCAA Bulletin P-10

Regulations and information about curriculum and assessment for Prep to Year 10

Principal Curriculum Coordinator PD Coordinator AIM Coordinator P-10 Teachers

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AIM Data Service

The 2006 AIM Reports on the web were made available for schools via the AIM Data Service at the beginning of Term 4. Schools are advised to access the reports by going to the VCAA website at <www.vcaa.vic.edu.au> where they will find a link to direct them to the AIM Data Service website.



All schools will receive the AIM Reporting Packages containing copies of Parent Reports for each individual student, the *2006 Reporting Guide* – AIM Data and copies of an information pamphlet for parents during the first week of October.

Access to the AIM Data Service website is gained using the same User ID and Password which were issued to schools

in 2005. Once users login to the AIM Data Service using their unique User ID and Password, they will be able to access the 2006 year level results for their school. Reports for 2005, 2004 and 2003 are also available upon selection.

Similarly to last year, a generic set of reports for Victoria College (a demonstration school) is available for viewing by using

the User ID 'VICCOLLEGE' and Password 'DEMO' for login.

Reporting Guide for schools

The *2006 Reporting Guide* – AIM Data provides advice and details about the reports and the use of the AIM Data Service.

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Online help available

An online tutorial and online help facility is available for users on the AIM Data Service website. It provides instructions on accessing and logging in to the AIM Data Service, as well as instructions on selecting report parameters and previewing reports.



A PDF copy of the *2006 Reporting Guide – AIM Data* is available for download from this facility.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are also available for common questions and issues.

AIM Help Desk

The VCAA AIM Help Desk operates from 8.30 am – 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday on Freecall **1800 648 637**.

This telephone service provides information on:

- reports to parents
- access to results data
- passwords
- generating reports
- interpreting student results and school data
- general queries about the AIM Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 testing.

Principals and teachers should feel free to use this Helpline at any time or contact AIM Help via email: vcaa.aim.help@edumail.vic.gov.au.

Pre-loaded class data

As in 2005, schools that provided student data to the VCAA as part of the pre-enrolment process in 2006, will have their class information pre-loaded into the AIM Data Service. Schools will still be able to modify class assignment, or add new classes if required. Schools that did not supply class information for pre-enrolment will still be able to create classes and assign students to classes.

New features

Changes to reports

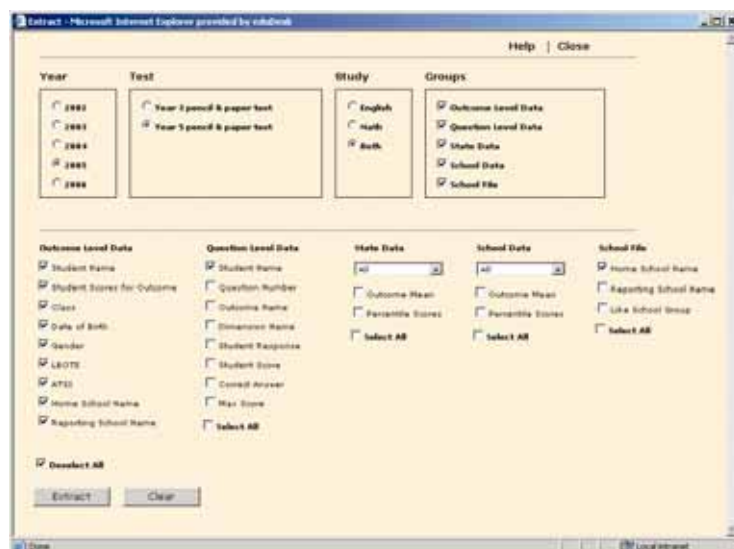
- Report 2 – Student Response Report
Listing of the students designated as absent for an outcome.
- Report 9 – Matched Student Comparison Report
Changes have been made to simplify the report parameters screen and sort filters for this report while maintaining the same level of completeness as previously. The matched cohort mean has been included in the report as well as the percentage of students who were matched.

Reporting against the Victorian Essential Learning Standards

The 2006 reports for Years 3, 5 and 7 will for the first time be reported against the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS) scale. This change was applied to all historic data on the AIM Data Service. Results prior to 2006 previously expressed on the CSF scale have now been converted to the VELS scale. This will assist schools to readily compare the current year's performance with performance in previous years.

Extraction function

A new data extraction function is now available for schools to export their school's report data out of the AIM Data Service at both the school and student levels. A simple intuitive process has been implemented. The function also allows for the extraction of state means and percentiles for outcome scores.



Enhanced security measures for the Achievement Improvement Monitor tests

The VCAA wishes to thank all those schools that participated in the random school observation visits during the Year 3, 5 and 7 AIM tests in August 2006. The feedback received was very informative and will provide useful information when preparing for the 2007 AIM tests.

The purpose of these visits was to check the security arrangements and procedures for the AIM materials and to observe the conduct of the tests in line with the standard conditions as outlined in the VCAA guides and to gain feedback from schools to further enhance future AIM test administrative procedures. The observers monitored the conduct of both the English and mathematics tests.

The observers visited 60 schools throughout the state during the 2006 AIM tests.

Part of the enhanced security measures is to further review the security arrangements and procedures for the AIM materials

at the school level. This will be conducted through a series of visits by VCAA personnel, to talk to AIM coordinators about the administration of the AIM tests and to receive feedback on how these processes might be improved.

During the school visits the VCAA will be asking questions and viewing secure storage facilities with the main focus on:

- checking security arrangements and storage facilities for the AIM material
- reviewing and checking relevant documentation completed during previous AIM tests
- answering questions and providing advice.

Selected schools will be contacted during Term 4 to arrange a suitable time and date to conduct the visits. We look forward to meeting with you and discussing any queries you may have regarding the AIM testing program.

The first part of the session will focus on how schools can access the AIM Data Report via the Internet. Participants will have an opportunity for hands-on investigation of individual school data by using hard copy of their school's results.

The second part of the presentation will focus on classroom level data and is designed to assist teachers in interpreting the data to inform classroom practice and individual student progress. The workshops will also include a whole school improvement focus and concentrate on the analysis of trend data and interpretation of the data to inform curriculum and school policy and program development.

The session will conclude with a presentation of the use of the reporting package, an explanation of terms, definitions and report formats, an explanation of the statistics generated by the AIM tests, and recommendations for using the AIM data to improve teaching programs.

There will be 50 three-hour sessions including 27 metropolitan workshops and 23 workshops for schools in regional Victoria.

Ten whole-day workshops will be conducted in five metropolitan venues and five regional venues. These workshops will be delivered to schools who wish to gain a deeper understanding of the AIM data and the way in which they can provide rich information at the school level for reporting purposes.

Each session will cater for approximately 25 participants at metropolitan and regional venues. Details of the time and place of the workshops are published on pages 5-7 and on the website at www.vcaa.vic.edu.au

AIM Data reporting 2006

Professional development workshops

Following the release of the results from the AIM testing program in the first week of October 2006, the VCAA invites principals, AIM coordinators, and Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 teachers to attend a workshop being held between 16 October and 23 November.

Philip Holmes-Smith has been contracted by the VCAA to deliver the workshops. The structure and delivery of the workshops will include a mixture of 'tuition' of the broad principles and hands-on investigation of individual school data.

On Demand Testing

Professional development for Term 4 2006

A continuing series of introductory On Demand Testing professional development sessions will be held in Term 4 in the following regions.

Region	Town/Suburb	Venue	Date
Eastern	Forest Hill	Parkmore Primary School	17 October
Southern	Dandenong	Greenslopes Primary School	18 October
Western	Avondale Heights	Avondale Primary School	19 October
Hume	Benalla	DE&T Regional Office	24 October
BSW	Geelong	To be confirmed	26 October (TBC)
BSW	Warrnambool	Warrnambool Secondary College	31 October
Gippsland	Moe	DE&T Regional Office	2 November

Schools that are interested in attending the On Demand Testing professional development sessions are invited to reserve their places. To register online and seek further details, please go to www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/prep10/aim/ondemand/index.html

Note: Sessions at the venues will only proceed if sufficient numbers of participants register. Confirmations will be sent closer to the date.

These sessions not only introduce the On Demand Testing program but also assist schools in utilising the program to its full potential. Schools that have attended previous professional development sessions are welcome to take the opportunity to send other staff to the sessions. An outline of the content of the sessions is provided below.

Schools that are not in the regions covered by the Term 4 sessions may also register their interest in attending future sessions. Your registration of interest will help us in the planning of the next round of professional development in 2007.

Professional development session outline

The sessions are being delivered in two-hour sessions that commence with a PowerPoint presentation that gives an overview of the On Demand Testing Program and the VCAA Assessment Online system. The presentation covers the different types of tests available – linear tests versus adaptive tests, the uses of the tests, and how the system works in schools. This presentation is followed by hands-on activities where teachers work on computers. The activities may include accessing and downloading the On Demand tests, scheduling and delivering tests to students, sitting tests and generating reports on the results of the tests. Details about the new VELS based tests and the new single dimension adaptive tests will be covered in the session.

For any inquiries, please contact the VCAA Assessment Online Helpdesk on 1800 623 681 or by email aim.support@edumail.vic.gov.au

Sessional Staff Management System

Year 9 AIM markers required

The Year 9 AIM tests will be held in English and Mathematics on 8 and 9 May 2007.

The VCAA is seeking applications from school teachers interested in taking part in the marking project in May 2007. Experienced secondary school teachers are strongly encouraged to apply.

AIM test marking provides:

- intensive training in the marking of short-answer and extended response questions
- experience in applying current curriculum standards criteria to student responses
- insights into the varied approaches applied by students in English and Mathematics tasks and topics
- an opportunity for retired teachers and those temporarily not in schools to participate.

All marking is completed online and non-metropolitan teachers are encouraged to apply. AIM markers may elect to mark at a metropolitan marking centre or from home (English only) provided they have a PC with broadband access.

English marking is expected to take between 10 to 14 days. It is strongly recommended that each marker commits to a minimum of four hours marking each day of the marking project.

An application can be registered from Wednesday 1 November 2006 and further details are available on the VCAA website at <https://www.ssms.vic.edu.au>

AIM Data Service professional development 2006

Three-hour workshops, venues and times

Region	Location	Venue and Address	Day	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Loddon Mallee	Bendigo	Quality Resort All Seasons, 171–183 McIvor Hwy, Bendigo	Monday 16 October	Not Available	12.45 pm – 3.45 pm	4.00 pm – 7.00 pm
Eastern Metropolitan Region	Wheelers Hill	Wheelers Hill International Motor Inn, 242 Jells Road, Wheelers Hill	Tuesday 17 October	8.30 am – 11.30 am	12.45 pm – 3.45 pm	4.00 pm – 7.00 pm
Southern Metropolitan Region	Dandenong	Comfort Inn Imperial, 124 Princes Highway, Dandenong	Thursday 19 October	8.30 am – 11.30 am	12.45 pm – 3.45 pm	4.00 pm – 7.00 pm
Northern Metropolitan Region	Tullamarine	Quality Hotel Melbourne Airport, 265 Mickleham Road, Tullamarine	Friday 20 October	8.30 am – 11.30 am	12.45 pm – 3.45 pm	Not Available
Barwon South Western	Geelong	Geelong Conference Centre, Adams Court Eastern Park, East Geelong	Monday 23 October	8.30 am – 11.30 am	12.45 pm – 3.45 pm	4.00 pm – 7.00 pm
Grampians	Ballarat	Sovereign Park Motor Inn, 223 Main Rd, Ballarat	Tuesday 24 October	Not Available	12.45 pm – 3.45 pm	4.00 pm – 7.00 pm
Western Metropolitan Region	Sunshine	Victoria University Convention Centre, Gate A, 460 Ballarat Rd, Sunshine	Wednesday 25 October	8.30 am – 11.30 am	12.45 pm – 3.45 pm	4.00 pm – 7.00 pm
Hume	Shepparton	Parklake Motor Inn, 481 Wyndham Street, Shepparton	Thursday 26 October	Not Available	12.45 pm – 3.45 pm	4.00 pm – 7.00 pm
Gippsland	Moe	Moe Regional Office, Cnr Kirk & Haigh St, Moe	Friday 27 October	8.30 am – 11.30 am	Not Available	Not Available
Gippsland	Traralgon	Quality Inn La Trobe Convention Centre, 5601 Princes Highway, Traralgon	Friday 27 October	Not Available	12.45 pm – 3.45 pm	Not Available
Barwon South Western	Colac	Comfort Inn Colac, 289 Murray Street, Colac	Monday 30 October	8.30 am – 11.30 am	Not Available	Not Available
Barwon South Western	Warrnambool	Sundowner Warrnambool Mid City, 525 Raglan Parade, Warrnambool	Monday 30 October	Not Available	1.00 pm – 4.00 pm	Not Available
Barwon South Western	Hamilton	Quality Inn Grange Burn, 142 Ballarat Rd, Hamilton	Tuesday 31 October	8.30 am – 11.30 am	Not Available	Not Available
Grampians	Horsham	Grains Innovation Park, 110 Natimuk Rd, Horsham	Tuesday 31 October	Not Available	1.00 pm – 4.00 pm	Not Available
Western Metropolitan Region	Hoppers Crossing	Wyndham Leisure & Events Centre, 82 Derrimut Road, Hoppers Crossing	Friday 3 November	8.30 am – 11.30 am	12.45 pm – 3.45 pm	Not Available
Eastern Metropolitan Region	Hawthorn	Leonda on the Yarra, 2 Wallen Road Hawthorn	Wednesday 8 November	8.30 am – 11.30 am	12.45 pm – 3.45 pm	4.00 pm – 7.00 pm

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Region	Location	Venue and Address	Day	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Southern Metropolitan Region	Moorabbin	Hemisphere Conference Centre, 488 South Rd, Moorabbin	Thursday 9 November	8.30 am – 11.30 am	12.45 pm – 3.45 pm	4.00 pm – 7.00 pm
Northern Metropolitan Region	Preston	Darebin Arts & Entertainment Centre, Cnr Bell St & St Georges Rd, Preston	Monday 13 November	8.30 am – 11.30 am	12.45 pm – 3.45 pm	4.00 pm – 7.00 pm
Eastern Metropolitan Region	Ringwood	Karralyka Centre, Mines Road, Ringwood East	Thursday 16 November	8.30 am – 11.30 am	12.45 pm – 3.45 pm	Not Available
Southern Metropolitan Region	Frankston	Frankston International Motel, 389 Nepean Hwy, Frankston	Friday 17 November	8.30 am – 11.30 am	12.45 pm – 3.45 pm	Not Available
Loddon Mallee	Mildura	Quality Resort Mildura, 373 Deakin Ave, Mildura	Monday 20 November	Not Available	12.45 pm – 3.45 pm	Not Available
Loddon Mallee	Swan Hill	The Sundowner Swan Hill Resort, 405 Campbell St, Swan Hill	Tuesday 21 November	8.30 am – 11.30 am	Not Available	Not Available
Loddon Mallee	Echuca	Quality Inn Port of Echuca, 465 High St, Echuca	Tuesday 21 November	Not Available	Not Available	4.00 pm – 7.00 pm
Hume	Wangaratta	Quality Inn Wangaratta Gateway, 29–37 Ryley Street, Wangaratta	Wednesday 22 November	Not Available	12.45 pm – 3.45 pm	4.00 pm – 7.00 pm
Hume	Seymour	Trawool Valley Resort, Goulbourn Valley Highway, Trawool	Thursday 23 November	8.30 am – 11.30 am	Not Available	Not Available
Northern Metropolitan Region	Eltham	Eltham Community & Reception Centre, Cnr Main Rd & Pitt St, Eltham	Thursday 23 November	Not Available	12.45 pm – 3.45 pm	Not Available
Gippsland	Lakes Entrance	Bellevue Motor Inn, 191–207 Esplanade, Lakes Entrance	Thursday 23 November	8.30 am – 11.30 am	Not Available	Not Available
Gippsland	Sale	Comfort Inn Princeton, 25–41 Princes Highway, Sale	Thursday 23 November	Not Available	1.00 pm – 4.00 pm	Not Available

All-day workshops, venues and times

Region	Location	Venue and Address	Day	Morning
Western Metropolitan Region	Avondale Heights	Avondale CTRC Avondale Primary School, Clarendon Street, Avondale Heights (Sydney St Entrance)	Friday 24 November	9.00 am – 4.00 pm
Eastern Metropolitan Region	Forest Hill	Parkmore CTRC Parkmore Primary School, Jolimont Road, Forest Hill	Monday 27 November	9.00 am – 4.00 pm
Barwon South Western	North Geelong	BSW CTRC DSE Regional Office, Vines Rd, North Geelong	Tuesday 28 November	9.00 am – 4.00 pm
Grampians	Ballarat	Ballarat CTRC Forest Street Primary School Hancock St, Wendouree (Hancock St Entrance)	Wednesday 29 November	9.00 am – 4.00 pm

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Region	Location	Venue and Address	Day	Morning
Hume	Benalla	GNE CTRC DSE Regional Office, Arundal St, Benalla	Thursday 30 November	9.00 am – 4.00 pm
Loddon Mallee	Bendigo	LCM CTRC DSE Regional Office, Havlin St, Bendigo	Friday 1 December	9.00 am – 4.00 pm
Gippsland	Moe	Gippsland CTRC DSE Regional Office, Cnr Kirk & Haigh Sts, Moe	Monday 4 December	9.00 am – 4.00 pm
Southern Metropolitan Region	Dandenong	Greenslopes CTRC Greenslopes Primary School, Gloria Ave, Dandenong	Tuesday 5 December	9.00 am – 4.00 pm
Northern Metropolitan Region	Coburg	Northern CTRC Newlands Primary School, Elizabeth Street, Coburg	Wednesday 6 December	9.00 am – 4.00 pm
Eastern Metropolitan Region	Forest Hill	Parkmore CTRC Parkmore Primary School, Jolimont Road, Forest Hill	Thursday 7 December	9.00 am – 4.00 pm

Important dates for AIM test 2007

Year 9

Centrally Assessed Tasks

Mathematics Tuesday 8 May
(now confirmed)

English Wednesday 9 May
(now confirmed)

Years 3, 5 and 7

Teacher Assessed Tasks (Years 3 and 5 only)

Monday 16 – Friday 27 July

Centrally Assessed Tasks

English Tuesday 31 July

Mathematics Wednesday 1 August

Publication of Victorian Essential Learning Standards assessment support materials – Errata

In the VCAA Bulletin P-10 Issue 24 a publication date on page 7 for the Victorian Essential Learning Standards assessment materials was omitted. Please include the following:

Progression points – publication as webpages	
30 October 2006	Science, Thinking Processes

A complete publication timeline has been reproduced below.

Draft progression points	
2 October 2006	All domains published on the Standards website as Adobe PDF files for downloading. Minor edits may occur prior to being published as webpages.
Progression points – publication as webpages	
9 October 2006	Health and Physical Education; Personal Learning; Civics and Citizenship
16 October 2006	The Humanities; Economics; Geography; History; Communication; Information and Communications Technology
30 October 2006	Science, Thinking Processes
13 November 2006	Interpersonal Development; Design, Creativity and Technology
27 November 2006	Languages Other Than English; The Arts
Assessment maps – at the standards	
27 October 2006	Health and Physical Education; Personal Learning; Civics and Citizenship; The Humanities; Economics; Geography; History; Communication; Information and Communications Technology; Science
17 December 2006	Thinking Processes; Interpersonal Development; Design, Creativity and Technology; The Arts; Languages Other Than English
Assessment maps – progressing towards the standards	
30 January 2007	Health and Physical Education; Personal Learning; Civics and Citizenship; The Humanities; Economics; Geography; History; Communication; Information and Communications Technology; Science
30 March 2007	Thinking Processes; Interpersonal Development; Design, Creativity and Technology; The Arts; Languages Other Than English
English and Mathematics – assessment maps	
3 November 2006	English and Mathematics assessment maps currently on the Standards website in the 'Assessment and Reporting' section. Additional work samples published progressively during Terms 3 and 4.
English and Mathematics – progression points	
17 December 2006	Revised English and Mathematics progression points published for use in 2007

Victorian Essential Learning Standards progression points now online

Following publication of draft progression points for English and Mathematics, progression points for all other Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS) domains have recently been published on the VELS website.

The new progression points are the result of an extensive VCAA development project involving teachers from government, independent and Catholic schools. The progression points are part of a package of resource materials provided by the VCAA, the Department of Education and Training and the Catholic Education Office to

assist teachers in implementing the VELS, assessing student progress and reporting to parents.

The purpose of the progression points is to assist teachers in making on-balance, holistic judgments about student progress towards the Standards. Students follow different pathways as they progress through the domains. Despite this, it is often possible to identify the pathway that students typically follow as they learn. This means that teachers use their professional judgment about how to use the progression points in relation to their classroom programs. They

are illustrative of student progress and therefore have not been written for every element of a standard (see sample below). Progression points are not intended to be used as a 'syllabus'.

The progression points are represented on a scale (see diagram 1 on page 10) as developmental points along an underlying continuum between the standards. Students will be working across a range of levels of the VELS at any given time.

The progression points follow a scale with three points between each standard. The progression points scale ranges from 0.5 to 6.75, depending on the levels for which standards are defined for each domain (see diagram 1 on page 10). For example, in Science standards are described from Level 3 and progression points are described from 2.25. Where standards are described from Level 1, there is one progression point 0.5 at Level 1 and three progression points for Levels 2 to 6. Beyond level 6 progression points are set at 6.25, 6.5 and 6.75.

Progression points at 3.25, 3.5 and 3.75, for example, represent students' progress beyond the Level 3 standard towards the Level 4 standard.

For each reporting period, teachers make an on-balance judgments about student progress in relation to the standards. The progression points together with assessment maps assist teachers in making this judgment.

Victorian Essential Learning Standards – Progression Points

Health and Physical Education

<p>Progression Point 2.25</p> <p>At 2.25, the work of a student progressing towards the Standard at Level 3 will demonstrate, for example:</p> <hr/> <p>Health knowledge and promotion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identification of major stages in the human lifespan and recognition of their own stage of development • recognition of their own traits and characteristics • basic knowledge and skills which promote personal safety and wellbeing in the home, school and/or community; for example crossing the road or not touching a syringe • basic knowledge of people and services within the school community that contribute to personal health and wellbeing • identification of their own healthy eating habits <hr/> <p>Movement and physical activity</p>	<p>Progression Point 2.5</p> <p>At 2.5, the work of a student progressing towards the Standard at Level 3 will demonstrate:</p> <hr/> <p>Health knowledge and promotion</p>
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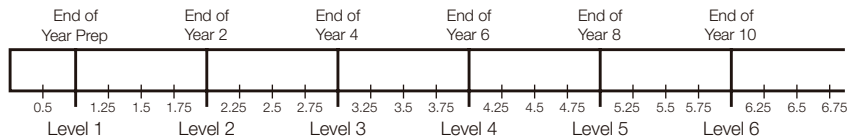
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Teacher judgment is based on evidence gained from the range of formal and informal assessment tasks and learning experiences undertaken over the semester. Teachers then make an overall, on-balance judgments about student progress on the continuum.

Progression points may be accessed on the VELS website at: <<http://vels.vcaa.vic.edu.au/>> under ‘What’s new?’ and in the Assessment and Reporting section.

Diagram 1: Progression point scale



English and Mathematics progression points

The VCAA is currently reviewing the Mathematics and English progression points in response to feedback from teachers and subject associations. The VCAA wishes to thank respondents to the recent survey available from the VELS website on the English and Mathematics progression points. The feedback is appreciated and will be reflected in revisions to be published in December for use in 2007.

Assessment maps

To further assist teachers in making on-balance judgments about student work, annotated work samples in all domains will be available during Term 4 as assessment maps. Annotated work samples for progression points in domains other than English and Mathematics are being published progressively from Term 4, for use in 2007.

September 2005 to September 2006

The detailed contents for this issue are on the front cover. This index records items in all issues from September 2005 to September 2006. Index items in issues prior to April 2006 are followed by issue number, month, year of issue and page number. Items for April 2006 onwards are given an issue number and page number only.

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AIM Support July 2006 DVD
2006 Reporting Guide – AIM Data
AIM Parent Reports Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 brochure

Internet

AIM

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Administration Guide for Schools, Years 3, 5 and 7 for 2006
Marking guide – Strategies
Benefits of On Demand Testing
AIM tests: Year 3 English, Year 3 Going Places, Year 3 Maths, Year 3 Spelling Instructions, Year 3 Writing, Year 3 and Year 5 Maths TAT, Year 5 English, Year 5 Making Tracks, Year 5 Maths, Year 5 Spelling Instructions, Year 5 Writing, Year 7 English,

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FAQs
Parent reports
AIM – Translated Year 3, 5, 7 Parent Information Leaflet (14 languages)
AIM Data Service Professional Development

Victorian Essential Learning Standards

Science – Frequently Asked Questions
Years 9 and 10 Student Programs – Frequently Asked Questions
Publication schedule of VELS assessment materials
English and Mathematics Assessment maps – new work samples
VELS Publications – Folder inserts (A3 and A4)
Parent booklet – Important information for parents about student learning and standards
Article about the new VELS parent booklet

VCAA Bulletin (VCAA Bulletin VCE, VCAL and VET; VCAA Bulletin P–10) is an official publication of the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority. Principals are advised to ensure that it is circulated among teaching staff. One copy should be filed for reference.

The VCAA Bulletin is also available online at: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au

Victorian schools only may photocopy this publication for use by teachers and students.

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A subscription form for the VCAA Bulletin is available on the VCAA website:

www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/correspondence/bulletins/bullsubscription.html or contact the VCAA on (03) 9651 4326.

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