

# Sevensteps Success Story

## ABOUT

Al Sadiq College is a two-campus K-12 school in Sydney with 100% EAL/D students.

## RESULTS

**80% Year 3 students**  
strong or exceeding in NAPLAN

**90% Year 5 students**  
strong or exceeding in NAPLAN

**Year 7 & 9 students**  
well above average in NAPLAN

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## How Seven Steps helped Al Sadiq College transform their NAPLAN writing results



We're really passionate about Seven Steps. Before, teaching writing was like: Ugh, we've got to teach writing again.

Now, it's like: Wow! This really works!

– MARY SEMAAN, HEAD OF PRIMARY (K-6), AL SADIQ COLLEGE

## OVERVIEW

In 2018, less than 25% of Years 3-6 students at Al Sadiq could compose a 'satisfactory' piece of writing. The school aimed to not just reach state level in NAPLAN writing, but also instil a love of writing in their students. After just 12 months using Seven Steps, they saw huge growth in their NAPLAN writing results, as well as student engagement.

## CHALLENGE

The student cohort is 100% EAL/D, with a broad range of ability levels. Pre-testing showed that students lacked the thought processes for extended vocabulary use and creative thinking, and they had limited knowledge or understanding of language features. Teachers required an explicit writing program that would give every student the opportunity to succeed.

## SOLUTION

Seven Steps' explicit teaching approach, evidence-based practices and support for oral language development was a good fit. The school carefully implemented the program, building teacher knowledge and confidence through professional learning workshops, modelling techniques and integrating it into their planning in a structured way.

## RESULTS

Post-testing revealed huge improvements in students' creativity and vocabulary, and enhanced understanding of audience engagement and language features. Reading and spelling results spiked too! Many students who are now at 'strong' or 'exceeding' level in NAPLAN writing were once receiving learning support, an outcome that has thrilled Semaan and her team.



**Read the full story here**

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