# Teacher Judgments for Special Circumstances

Information on using ‘did not participate’ or ‘DNP’ for when students are not being assessed in a curriculum area/strand/mode for the reporting period due to special circumstances.

## Special Circumstances

A ‘did not participate’ or ‘DNP’ is used when students are not being assessed in a curriculum area/strand/mode for the reporting period. You would use a ‘DNP’ entry when you do not have a suitable amount of evidence of a student’s level of achievement, due to special circumstances, to make a defensible and on-balance judgement against the standards.

An explanation of the special circumstances is as follows for when a ‘did not participate’ or ‘DNP’ entry is selected:

**DNP-Low participation** – the student has low levels of school attendance and is not participating in an approved re-engagement program.

**DNP-Exemption from a curriculum area** – during the reporting period the student participated in a targeted intervention program instead of a curriculum area, or was granted an [accepted absence](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/attendance/guidance/6-requirements-schools-managing-absence) and has a Student Absence Learning Plan in place.

**DNP-Absent without reasonable excuse** – during the reporting period the student was [absent without a reasonable excuse](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/attendance/guidance/6-requirements-schools-managing-absence) and a Student Absence Learning Plan was not in place or completed.

**DNP-Late enrolment** – the student was enrolled in the school towards or at the end of the reporting period.

**DNP-Serious illness** – the student was seriously ill during the reporting period.

Information on managing student attendance and absence is published on the Department of Education and Training’s Policy Advisory Library, see [Attendance](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/attendance/policy).

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