

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority (ACARA)

Department of Education Question No. ED0615_15

Senator O'Neill asked on 22 October 2014 , Hansard page 35

Question

ACARA: when each part of the curriculum was implemented

Senator O'NEILL: The report is not, but much of the speculation in public has been alluding to that or is creating that impression. Can I go to a completely different question? Has the curriculum been in place for five years?

Mr Randall: The English, maths, science and history curriculum was approved in 2010, I think, and then 2011. There were two cycles of approval: one around the content and then when we brought the achievement standards back. That is when it was signed off by what is now called the Education Council.

Senator O'NEILL: So even the oldest bit is not yet five years old. There has been a whole lot of staged implementation, hasn't there?

Mr Randall: Yes.

Senator O'NEILL: Could you take on notice a full breakdown of when each part of the curriculum was implemented or is expected to be implemented in classrooms, state by state?

Mr Randall: English, maths, science and history?

Senator O'NEILL: Yes, and any information you can give us on the other areas as they are developing. That would be wonderful.

Mr Randall: Yes we can. We will take that on notice.

Answer

ACARA has provided the following response.

State and territory curriculum and school authorities determine timelines for implementation of new Australian Curriculum, taking into account the needs of their systems, schools and teachers.

Since 2011, the Australian Curriculum for F-10 English, mathematics, science and history has been steadily introduced across states and territories and in 2014 all states and territories are engaged in implementation. State and territory curriculum and school authorities are at various stages of planning for implementation of phases 2 and 3 of the Australian Curriculum.

An overview of the implementation timelines adopted by each state and territory jurisdiction is available on the [ACARA website](#) and is included at [Attachment 1](#).

Attachment 1

State and Territory Implementation of the Foundation to Year 10 Australian Curriculum

The information in the table below has been provided by the relevant state or territory curriculum or school authority. More detailed information should be sourced from the relevant state and territory curriculum or school authority.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY <i>(including all sectors)</i>	
2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Familiarisation with phase 1 <i>Australian Curriculum</i> subjects. • Whole-school planning for the <i>Australian Curriculum</i>, including professional development. • Bridging document developed to transition ACT Curriculum Framework <i>Every Chance to Learn</i> to the <i>Australian Curriculum</i>.
2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English and Science taught in primary schools. • English, Mathematics, Science and History taught in years 7, 8, and 9. • English, Mathematics and Science taught in year 10. • Professional development for all phase 1 subjects, including pedagogy and assessment practices. • Lead Schools provided professional development and exemplar units of work based on the <i>Australian Curriculum</i>.
2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English, Science, History, Mathematics taught in years K–10. • Assessment and reporting based on achievement standards and use of annotated work samples K–9. • Professional development provided to establish consistent assessment and reporting practices.
2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commence familiarisation with Geography and the Arts.
2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commence familiarisation with Languages, Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business, Technologies, Health and Physical Education and Work Studies
2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consolidate teaching of all <i>Australian Curriculum</i> subjects
2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full implementation of <i>Australian Curriculum</i> K–10.

NEW SOUTH WALES (including all sectors)*

2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NSW Minister announced that implementation will be delayed until 2014. The Official Board of Studies Notice indicated that in NSW new K-10 syllabuses were being developed for English, mathematics, science and history which were not required to be taught before 2014. • The Board of Studies continued its development of syllabuses that gave expression in the NSW style to the Australian Curriculum content descriptions. • The Board of Studies sought the views of teachers on draft syllabuses for Foundation to Year 10 English, mathematics, science and history with consultation continuing as the syllabuses are redrafted. • Information forums were held.
2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing NSW K-12 syllabuses were used for 2012. • A joint memorandum on the implementation schedule of the new syllabuses was released on 31 July 2012. • The new K-10 syllabuses will be available by the end of September 2012.
2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional development for teachers commenced. • This is a year for familiarisation and planning. • Schools will not be required to teach new syllabuses before 2014. • In the year preceding the adoption of the new syllabuses, schools will need to have prepared a plan for implementation.
2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NSW K-10 English, Mathematics, Science and History syllabuses incorporating Australian curriculum start being taught according to the implementation schedule. A copy of the schedule is available on BOSTES website www.syllabus.bos.nsw.edu.au/about/#implementation
2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second year of implementation schedule for NSW K-10 English, Mathematics, Science and History syllabuses incorporating Australian curriculum.
2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third year of implementation schedule for NSW K-10 English, Mathematics, Science and History syllabuses incorporating Australian curriculum.

* BOSTES is responsible for developing, in close consultation with teachers and other stakeholders, the mandatory curriculum, K–12, to be taught in NSW schools. Teachers and administrators from all NSW school sectors need to refer to communication and advice from BOSTES when planning their teaching programs based on BOSTES syllabuses.

NORTHERN TERRITORY (including all sectors)

<p>2011</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twenty-two schools piloted the Australian Curriculum in English (16 schools), mathematics (18 schools), science (5 schools) and history (7-10 at 6 schools) with an advisory group monitoring during the pilots. • Planning workshops were held. A mapping and gap analysis was published to support teachers. • A <i>Getting Started</i> package of materials was supported by regional professional learning workshops for curriculum leaders. • <i>Teaching/ Leading for Learning with the Australian Curriculum</i> support packages were available to assist teachers to plan, teach, monitor and assess for student learning using the online Australian Curriculum with school leaders developing a whole-school approach to implementation. • Governance – cross-sectoral advisory group met regularly.
<p>2012</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English and mathematics will be taught in classrooms in all schools from Semester 2. • A pilot of the Australian Curriculum and Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) will be undertaken in NT schools. • Piloting will continue with Australian Curriculum: science and professional learning networks established for history. • Schools will be supported to become familiar with the Foundation to Year 10 science and history learning areas. • A series of professional learning modules on assessing Australian Curriculum mathematics and English developed and implemented. • A series of professional learning modules developed to support schools to prepare to implement science and history. • DET schools have access to Queensland developed 'Curriculum into the Classroom' materials for English and mathematics including whole of school curriculum and assessment plans and unit plans.
<p>2013</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science and History will be taught in classrooms in all schools from Semester 2. • DET schools have access to Queensland developed 'Curriculum into the Classroom' materials for English, mathematics and science including whole of school curriculum and assessment plans and unit plans. • Professional learning modules developed to support teachers to integrate the general capabilities and cross-curriculum priorities into their teaching. • Dedicated learning area pages developed in the Department's portal, Learning Links. These learning area pages provide information, teaching resources, web links to support teachers using the Australian Curriculum English, mathematics, history, science and geography. • Multiple year level materials for English, mathematics, science and history were developed to support teachers.
<p>2014</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English, mathematics, science and history will be taught in classrooms across all levels to Year 10 using the Australian Curriculum. • Implementation advice for geography (including a dedicated geography page on Learning Links) has been provided to schools. While schools are not required to commence teaching geography until beginning 2015, they may choose to commence using the curriculum if they wish. • Development of professional learning and resources regarding connecting learning across learning areas and subjects is a major focus.

2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geography will be implemented in all schools from Transition to Year 10 from Semester 1.
2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The implementation timelines for the Northern Territory for health and physical education, technologies, economics and business, civics and citizenship and the arts will depend on when these learning areas/subjects receive final endorsement.
QUEENSLAND (including all sectors)	
2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers became familiar with the Foundation to Year 10 English, mathematics and science curricula by auditing and reviewing current programs and engaging with targeted professional development. • Discipline-specific teacher professional development was provided in English, mathematics and science followed by history. • Individual schools ran trials in some learning areas and levels. • The Queensland Studies Authority undertook curriculum mapping and developed curriculum resources (including bridging materials to current QSA curricula). Subject specific and whole of curriculum briefings were available. • Education Queensland developed a 'Curriculum to Classroom' project that included online provision through the intranet of whole of school curriculum and assessment plans, unit plans and lesson plans. • Governance- cross-sectoral monthly meetings of CEOs were held to plan implementation.
2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English, mathematics and science will be taught in classrooms across Foundation (Prep) to Year 10 using the Australian Curriculum. • Teachers become familiar with the new Foundation to Year 10 history curriculum. • Discipline-specific teacher professional development provided in history. • Teacher professional development on operationalizing the Australian Curriculum achievement standards and assessment and reporting for English, mathematics, science and history.
2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English, mathematics, science and history will be taught in classrooms across Foundation (Prep) to Year 10 using the Australian Curriculum.
2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English, mathematics, science and history will be taught in classrooms across all Foundation (Prep) to Year 10 using the Australian Curriculum. • Begin implementation of Foundation (Prep) to Year 10 geography.
2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement remaining learning areas/subjects by 2016.
2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement remaining learning areas/subjects by 2016.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Catholic Schools)

2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools had the flexibility to design their own timelines for the implementation of Foundation to Year 10 Australian Curriculum. A professional development consultancy service was provided to schools.
2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A consultancy service will be provided to schools for professional development.
2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English, mathematics, science and history will be taught in classrooms across all levels to Year 9 using the Australian Curriculum by the end of 2013.
2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All four phase 1 learning areas will be taught in classrooms across all levels to Year 9 using the Australian Curriculum and possibly in Year 10.
2015	<i>To be advised.</i>
2016	<i>To be advised.</i>

SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Government Schools)

2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Familiarisation year for F(R)-10 English, Mathematics, Science and History with the expectation of implementation beginning in primary years in 2012. Focus for secondary teachers was on the second year of implementation of the new South Australian Certificate of Education. Professional learning and support through workshops and online resources (Science Connections and Mathematics workshops, based on the Australian Curriculum were available for primary teachers).
2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers of Years F(R)-7 used the Australian Curriculum for Mathematics and Science to plan, teach, assess and report student learning, and became familiar with English and History. Familiarisation with the Australian Curriculum continued for English, Mathematics, Science and History for teachers Years 8 – 10.
2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers Years F(R)-8 used the Australian Curriculum for Mathematics, Science, English and History to plan, teach, assess and report student learning. Ongoing professional learning focusing on the importance of teachers using 'what' is in the curriculum with intentional planning about 'how' to teach to improve students' engagement, intellectual challenge and powerful learning capacities in order to lift their achievement

2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers Years F(R)-9 use the Australian Curriculum for English, Mathematics, Science and History to plan, teach, assess and report student learning. Teachers Years F(R)-7 becoming familiar with The Arts, Geography, Economics and Business, and Civics and Citizenship. Teachers Years 8-10 becoming familiar with The Arts, Geography, Economics and Business, Civics and Citizenship, Technologies, and Health and Physical Education.
2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers Years F(R)-7 use the Australian Curriculum for Mathematics, Science, English, History, Geography, Economics and Business, Civics and Citizenship, and The Arts to plan, teach, assess and report student learning. Teachers Years 8-10 use all Australian Curriculum learning areas to plan, teach, assess and report student learning. Teachers Years F(R)-7 become familiar with Technologies, and Health and Physical Education.
2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers Years F(R)-10 use all Australian Curriculum learning areas to plan, teach, assess and report student learning.
2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In exceptional circumstances e.g. concerning the teaching of Languages, some schools may have approval to fully implement the F(R)-10 Australian Curriculum by the end of 2017.
2012-2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional learning and support provided to leaders and teachers by Primary and Secondary Australian Curriculum Implementation Officers. Additional two student free days for each school each year. Ongoing development of online resources.
SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Independent Schools)	
2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curriculum mapping; familiarisation for English, mathematics, science and history was undertaken, though schools could choose to implement earlier. Teacher professional learning was available.
2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English, mathematics and science will be taught in some classrooms. There will be ongoing familiarisation with history. Teacher professional learning will continue.
2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English, mathematics, science and history will be taught in some classrooms. Teacher professional learning will continue.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full implementation involves teachers using the Australian Curriculum to plan, teach, assess and report on student achievement using the achievement standards.
2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All four phase 1 learning areas will be taught in classrooms across all levels to Year 9 and possibly Year 10 depending on the development of the Australian Curriculum senior secondary being ready for implementation in 2015.
2015	<i>To be advised.</i>
2016	<i>To be advised.</i>
TASMANIA (Catholic Schools)	
2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher professional learning was available. Preparation was provided for all phase 1 learning areas.
2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full implementation with English, mathematics, science and history being taught in classrooms in all levels to Year 10.
2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All four phase 1 learning areas will be taught in classrooms across all levels to Year 10 using the Australian Curriculum.
2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All four phase 1 learning areas will be fully implemented across all levels to Year 10 using the Australian Curriculum. Geography will be taught in classrooms across all levels using the Australian Curriculum.
2015	<i>To be advised.</i>
2016	<i>To be advised.</i>
TASMANIA (Government Schools)	
2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This was a preparation year for phase one subjects - English, mathematics and science. History was introduced. • The three sectors worked together and shared plans.
2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full implementation of three learning areas with English, mathematics and science being taught in classrooms in all levels to Year 10.
2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full implementation of history. • English, mathematics, science and history will be taught in classrooms across all levels to Year 10 using the Australian Curriculum.
2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English, mathematics, science and history are taught in classrooms across all levels to Year 10 using the Australian Curriculum. • Full implementation of geography by the end of the year. • Trialling of health and physical education during the year.
2015	<i>To be determined.</i>
2016	<i>To be determined.</i>

TASMANIA (Independent Schools)

2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools prepared for implementation from 2011 but at different levels and in varied contexts. Professional learning was available to prepare for English, mathematics, science and history. There was collaborative planning for English and mathematics across sectors.
2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing professional learning will be available to all schools. Implementation of English, mathematics, science and history with English, mathematics and science to be classrooms Foundation to Year 10 and supported by the 1ST Curriculum Project Officer.
2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English, mathematics, science and history will be implemented and taught in classrooms Foundation to Year 10.
2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English, mathematics, science and history are taught in classrooms across all levels to Year 10 using the Australian Curriculum. Implementation of geography by the end of the year. Trialling of health and physical education during the year.
2015	<i>To be determined.</i>
2016	<i>To be determined.</i>

VICTORIA (including all sectors)

2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional development focused on whole school curriculum and assessment planning. AusVELS curriculum framework was developed. (AusVELS is a new single curriculum portal that integrates the Australian Curriculum in English, mathematics, science and history with the remaining state-based areas of the curriculum (the current VELS). The framework provides for the subsequent integration of the learning areas in the later phases of Australian Curriculum development and the other areas of the Australian Curriculum).
2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation and professional development in curriculum planning and assessment will be provided. A professional development program for principals will also be provided. Schools will have the opportunity to participate in a pilot Implementation program.
2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government and Catholic schools will use AusVELS for curriculum planning and assessment purposes, which includes the Australian Curriculum for English, mathematics, science and history for Years F-10. AusVELS will be available to all independent schools.
2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government and catholic schools will use AusVELS for curriculum planning and assessment purposes, which includes the Australian Curriculum for English, mathematics, science and history for years F-10. AusVELS will be available to all Independent schools.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At this stage, it is envisaged the second iteration of AusVELS will be released early in Term 3 for the purpose of school curriculum planning. The second iteration includes the full suite of learning areas and four general capabilities (critical and creative thinking, ethical understanding, personal and social capability, and intercultural understanding). • Curriculum Planning and Reporting Guidelines released. • Curriculum Planning website released to support school leadership teams to undertake whole school curriculum planning.
2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial implementation of new teaching and learning programs incorporating the full suite of learning areas and four general capabilities, to commence from the start of the school year, with full implementation to be in place in all government and Catholic schools from the start of 2017. • Reporting against the new achievement standards in these additional learning areas and general capabilities will be dependent upon the implementation timeline for each school. • AusVELS will be available to all Independent schools
2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of new teaching and learning programs incorporating the full suite of learning areas and four general capabilities continue with full implementation to be in place in all government and Catholic schools from the start of 2017. • Reporting against the new achievement standards in these additional learning areas and general capabilities will be dependent upon the implementation timeline for each school. • AusVELS will be available to all Independent schools.
2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government and Catholic schools will use AusVELS (including all the learning areas and four general capabilities) for assessment and reporting purposes for Years F-10 • AusVELS will be available to all Independent schools.
WESTERN AUSTRALIA (including all sectors)	
2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was no expectation of implementation for 2011. • Validation activities occurred in Terms 2 and 3. • All sectors provided professional learning and support for teachers to become familiar with the Australian Curriculum. • Further consultation occurred on the commencement of Implementation and an Implementation schedule.
2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During 2012 the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA) will develop the Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline which will replace the existing WA Curriculum Framework. • The formal three-year implementation period commenced in July 2012. Schools, pre-primary (Foundation) to Year 10, have three years in which to fully implement the Australian Curriculum in English, mathematics, science and history. • Full implementation of phase 1, in July 2015, involves teachers using the Australian Curriculum to teach, assess and report on student achievement. • Schools will decide on their implementation schedule to achieve this goal.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During all stages of the implementation process the systems/sectors will continue to provide professional learning and support for teachers. Schools will continue to collaborate to make full use of the expertise distributed within and across school networks.
2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SCSA will publish the Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline which will provide schools with Western Australian guidelines and policy relating to implementation of the Australian Curriculum, Including reporting requirements. • Schools, pre-primary (Foundation) to Year 10 will continue to Implement the Australian Curriculum in English, mathematics, science and history.
2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools, Pre-primary (Foundation) to Year 10, will teach the curriculum in English, Mathematics, Science and History. • During 2014 the SCSA will, in consultation with teachers, be adapting content from the Australian Curriculum Phase 2 and 3 subjects/learning areas (The Arts, Health and Physical Education and Technologies) to suit Western Australian schools. History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship and Economics and Business will be reviewed to ensure a coherent Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) learning area. • No timelines have been decided for implementation of the Australian curriculum for Languages in Western Australia.
2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools will report to parents on student achievement form Semester 1 in accordance with the <i>Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline</i> reporting policy. As the Western Australian curriculum will not be available for all components of the Humanities and Social Science learning area, schools will have the discretion to report student achievement in History and/or the Humanities and Social Sciences until further clarification is provided by the Authority. • The Authority will begin development of support materials for Phase 2 and 3 subjects and learning areas based on the Western Australian adapted curriculum.
2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Western Australian adapted curriculum for The Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, Health and Physical Education and Technologies will be available to schools for familiarisation.