

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10**

Outcome **2**

DEEWR Question No. EW0129_10

Provided in writing by Senator Mason on 17 June 2009.

Question

1. Will delivery of the new national music curriculum be mandatory?
2. What programs, resources or funding will be made available to States or Schools to enable them to deliver on this new national music curriculum?

Answer

1) The second tranche of national curriculum development will include the arts (visual and performing), languages and geography. ACARA will provide advice to the Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs in October 2009 on the approach, timeframe and estimated costs for this second phase of national curriculum development.

No decisions have yet been made regarding whether the national arts curriculum (including music) will be compulsory.

2) The Government is investing a record \$62.1 billion in Australian schools from 2009-2012 to enable the states and territories and the non-government sector to achieve schooling outcomes agreed under the National Education Agreement including implementation of the National Curriculum.

All key learning areas announced as part of the National Curriculum will be supported by online curriculum resources. As part of the Digital Education revolution, \$32.6 million has been allocated to support the development of online curriculum resources, focusing on the key learning areas of English, mathematics, the sciences, history, languages, geography and the arts (including music).

Reviews of existing online curriculum resources are being undertaken. This evidence base, and further analysis, will be used to identify gaps and needs in relation to supporting the delivery of the National Curriculum online.