

Summary of changes to the Western Australian Curriculum: The Arts, Dance

Overall

The Western Australian Arts curriculum was originally adopted and adapted from the Australian Curriculum version 8.4 (2017) to develop year level syllabuses.

The Arts curriculum has been revised against the Australian Curriculum version 9, contextualised for the *Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline* to meet the needs of students and teachers. The content has been clarified, and exemplified, to support teachers in planning for teaching, learning and assessment.

Strands – renamed

The Arts content is organised under common strands in each of the five Arts subjects. The Performance arts subjects, including Dance, Drama and Music, are organised under the three strands **Explore**, **Create** and **Perform**. The Visual arts subjects, including Media Arts and Visual Arts, are organised under the three strands **Explore**, **Develop** and **Create**.

Learning area content

New content

- Examples have been added to clarify content descriptions and, where appropriate, to support teacher understanding and provide contexts for teaching.
- Pre-primary, added improvisation
- Years 4 to 6, added movements to express a theme or story
- Years 2 to 3, added choreographic devices
- Pre-primary to Year 6, added use dance to develop interpersonal skills
- Pre-primary to Year 6, realignment of the fundamental movement skills that create movement competency
- Pre-primary to Year 6, added use strategies to improve performance and retention of choreography
- Years 2 to 10, choreographic devices aligned with students' abilities
- Years 3 to 6, added keeping in time with the music
- Year 5, added design concept
- Year 10, added technology as a design concept
- Years 7 to 10, addition of choreographic devices, genres/styles, fitness, group synergy
- Years 7 to 10, added personal responsibilities

Deleted content

- Pre-primary to Year 3, removed audience behaviour
- Pre-primary to Year 6, removed specific technique and skills
- Pre-primary to Year 8, removed strength and flexibility
- Year 6, removed specific design concepts
- Years 7 to 8, removed lighting

Updated content

- Pre-primary to Year 10, purpose now referred to as function to align with current practice
- Pre-primary to Year 10, dynamics has been adopted as an element of dance, replacing energy, to align with current terminology
- Pre-primary to Year 10, realignment of the safe and healthy dance practices
- Years 4 to 10, performance skills renamed performance qualities to align with current terminology

Year level descriptions

- Inclusion of phases of schooling information to provide teachers with guidance about the sorts of curriculum experiences likely to support children and students at each phase
- Updated to align with the revised content descriptions

Achievement standards

- Reviewed to align with revised content descriptions
- Ensured the standards provide specific information for teachers to make informed judgements about student achievement
- Language change from 'At standard' to 'By the end of the year'