

School Curriculum and Standards Authority

Consultation on the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority's (ACARA) F–10 Australian Curriculum Review

Background Information

Background

- In September 2015, Australia’s education ministers endorsed the F–10 Australian Curriculum.
- After consultation with teachers and other important stakeholders, Western Australia ‘adopted and adapted’ the F–10 Australian Curriculum.
- The Western Australian curriculum published in the *Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline* (<https://k10outline.scsa.wa.edu.au/>) sets out the mandatory teaching, assessing and reporting on student achievement requirements for all Western Australian schools.
- On 12 June 2020, Education Council tasked the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) to undertake a review of the Australian Curriculum for Foundation to Year 10 (F–10) to ensure it is still meeting the needs of students and providing clear guidance for teachers.

ACARA

Australian Curriculum
developed and published on
ACARA's website in 2014



Australian Curriculum Review 2020–2021

Proposed revised curriculum
released for consultation in
2021



Proposed revised curriculum
presented to Education Ministers
for endorsement



Endorsed Australian
Curriculum published on
ACARA's website in Jan 2022

Reviewed by WA stakeholders with a view to
either adopt or adapt (2014–2016)



SCOSA

Adopted, adapted and published
the Western Australian Curriculum
(2017)

States/Territories
determine how/if to use
the revised Australian
Curriculum

Reviewed by WA stakeholders with a view to
either adopt or adapt (2022–?)



2022–?

WA schools **must** continue to teach,
assess and report using current
Western Australian curriculum

Aim of ACARA's review

Improve the Australian Curriculum F–10 by **refining, realigning** and **decluttering** the content of the curriculum within its existing structure and underpinned by the education goals of the *Alice Springs (Mparntwe) Education Declaration (2019)*.

Specifically, the review will:

- a. **refine and reduce** the amount of content across all eight learning areas of the Australian Curriculum F–10, with a priority on the primary years, to focus on essential content or core concepts
- b. **improve quality** of content descriptions and achievement standards by removing ambiguity and unnecessary duplication, and ensuring consistency and clarity of language and cognitive demand
- c. **rationalise and improve** content elaborations, ensuring they are fit for purpose and they suggest to teachers the most authentic ways to treat general capabilities and cross curriculum priorities when teaching the learning area content
- d. **improve digital presentation** of the Australian Curriculum in line with agreed content changes and user experience requirements.

Scope of ACARA's review

- All eight learning areas will be reviewed from Foundation to Year 10, with Mathematics and Technologies reviewed first.
- Particular attention will be paid to the F–6 curriculum in order to reduce overcrowding and provide improved manageability and coherence in the primary years.
- Chinese, French, Italian and Japanese will be completed first, with the 12 other Languages completed by 2023.

ACARA's review timeline



<https://www.acara.edu.au/curriculum/curriculum-review>

WA consultation and feedback timeline

Step	Activity	Dates
1	Authority conducts consultation with stakeholders	30 April 2021 – 28 May 2021
2	Feedback collated by the Authority and approved by the Board	31 May 2021 – 11 June 2021
3	Proposed jurisdictional response submitted to the Minister for Education and Training for consideration and forwarding to the Department of Premier and Cabinet for endorsement	14 June 2021 – 2 July 2021
4	Endorsed Western Australian jurisdictional feedback submitted by the Authority to ACARA	5 – 9 July 2021

Focus of consultation by the Authority

- Do the introductory sections provide important information about the learning area/subject?
- Has the quality of content descriptions been improved?
- Has the quality of achievement standards been improved?
- Has the quality of content elaborations been improved?
- Is the wording of the proposed revisions better than what we have now?
- Has the curriculum content been refined, realigned and decluttered?
- Has the manageability and coherence in the F–6 curriculum been improved in order to reduce overcrowding?
- Is the revised Australian Curriculum in learning areas/subjects an improvement on the current version?
- Have the General Capabilities and Cross-curriculum priorities been improved?

Focus of consultation by the Authority

Feedback from state-wide consultation will assist the Authority to:

- identify proposed content that should be adopted in the Western Australian curriculum
- identify potential concerns for teachers and school leaders if the proposed revisions were to be adopted in Western Australia
- identify what and how much support would be required if the proposed revisions to the Australian Curriculum were to be adopted in the Western Australian curriculum
- provide the Board, Minister Ellery, the Western Australian government and ACARA with well consulted feedback representing the views of teachers and school leaders and not just the views of curriculum experts.

Access and review ACARA's consultation curriculum

1. Access ACARA's consultation curriculum documents for each of the learning areas, general capabilities and cross-curriculum priorities through the link below:

https://k10outline.scsa.wa.edu.au/home/teaching/acara-f10-australian-curriculum-review/_nocache

2. Encourage your teachers to:

- take time to review ACARA's proposed revisions to the curriculum
- complete the Authority's Consultation Survey/s

https://k10outline.scsa.wa.edu.au/home/teaching/acara-f10-australian-curriculum-review/_nocache

What's next?

The School Curriculum and Standards Authority will use all of the feedback gathered during its consultation period to inform the Western Australian jurisdictional response that will be submitted to ACARA.

Remember to:

- continue to teach, assess and report using the Western Australian curriculum:
<https://k10outline.scsa.wa.edu.au/home/teaching/curriculum-browser>

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