

ACARA is responsible for the development of the Australian Curriculum from Foundation to Year 12.

### 2008-2010

Development of the Foundation to Year 10 Australian Curriculum for:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- History

is now complete. These learning areas can be found on the website

([www.australiancurriculum.edu.au](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au)).

Senior secondary curriculum in these areas continues to be developed in 2010-2012.

### 2010-2012

Development has begun for the Foundation to Year 12 Australian Curriculum for:

- Geography
- Languages
- The Arts

### 2011-2013

Future development of the Foundation to Year 12 Australian Curriculum will focus on the remaining learning areas identified in the 2008 Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians.

This includes a focus on:

- Economics and business
- Civics and citizenship
- Health and physical education
- Technologies

The Melbourne Declaration is available at [www.mceecdya.edu.au](http://www.mceecdya.edu.au)

For more information about the Australian Curriculum visit [www.australiancurriculum.edu.au](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au)

### MCEECDYA

Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs

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ASSESSMENT AND  
REPORTING AUTHORITY

For more information about ACARA visit [www.acara.edu.au](http://www.acara.edu.au) or email [info@acara.edu.au](mailto:info@acara.edu.au)

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# Australian Curriculum

## An overview



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ASSESSMENT AND  
REPORTING AUTHORITY

## About the Foundation to Year 10 Australian Curriculum

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) is responsible for developing a world-class national curriculum that will inspire and challenge all Australian students.

Australian education ministers committed to the development and implementation of a Foundation (first year of schooling) to Year 12 Australian Curriculum, initially in the areas of English, Mathematics, Science and History, followed by Geography, Arts, Languages and then all other learning areas.

The Foundation to Year 10 Australian Curriculum for English, Mathematics, Science and History has been developed and is available at [www.australiancurriculum.edu.au](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au).

Work on the senior secondary Australian Curriculum for English, Mathematics, Science and History is well underway and further consultation is planned for 2012.

## Why develop an Australian Curriculum?

A quality education for all young Australians is critical to maintaining Australia's productivity and quality of life. The development of the Australian Curriculum represents a commitment by all Australian states and territories to work together to develop a world-class curriculum for all young Australians.

The Australian Curriculum will make clear to parents, teachers and students what young people should be taught and the quality of learning that is expected of them, wherever they go to school in Australia.

## How is the Australian Curriculum being written?

ACARA has drawn together the best talent from across the nation, including teachers, curriculum experts and subject experts, to draft the Australian Curriculum. The curriculum writers are supported in their work by advisory groups comprising a range of experts, including subject and learning area experts, stage of schooling experts and members with expertise in equity and diversity.

At critical points in the writing process, experts and interested parties from around the country are brought together to provide their views and comments.

## What is in the Australian Curriculum?

The Australian Curriculum sets out what each Australian student should be taught in relation to learning areas, general capabilities and cross-curriculum priorities.

Key elements of the curriculum are content descriptions and achievement standards organised in learning areas. The content descriptions specify what teachers are expected to teach. Achievement standards describe what students are typically able to understand and to do as they progress through their schooling.

The Australian Curriculum provides examples that illustrate each content description, called elaborations. Student work samples illustrate the achievement standards.

The Australian Curriculum is presented online at [www.australiancurriculum.edu.au](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au) to enable all Australians to see what is being taught across the nation. An online curriculum also helps teachers to plan and share information and resources across the country.

## How can you become involved in further consultation?

Over 30,000 stakeholders contributed to the development of the first four learning areas by responding to the draft versions of the Foundation to Year 10 curricula.

The easiest way to provide feedback for the next phase of development will be by visiting the Australian Curriculum website and clicking on 'consultation'.

Here you can read, review, download or print any, or all, of the draft Australian Curriculum as it becomes available. The website is also the place where individuals and groups can complete an online feedback survey.

ACARA conducts state, territory and national invitational forums and public information sessions for each phase of development. Some states and territories may also conduct their own consultation sessions. For more information on the consultation process visit <http://www.acara.edu.au/curriculum/consultation.html>.

## Where can you find out more?

The Australian Curriculum website ([www.australiancurriculum.edu.au](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au)) contains the curriculum and links to frequently asked questions (FAQs) and information materials. The ACARA website ([www.acara.edu.au](http://www.acara.edu.au)) also has general information support documents available.