



**Australian Government**



# **Arts Curricula in Australian Schools**

The following document has been produced as part of the Australia Council's Education and the Arts Strategy (2004 – 2007). The strategy, developed in collaboration with the National Education and Arts Network (NEAN), aims to promote the Australia Council's long-term vision - where the arts are an integral part of the life-long learning of every Australian.

The Australia Council aims to provide a clear overview of existing arts curricula by listing the hyperlinks to each state and territory curriculum and syllabus framework documents within this publication.

For a copy of the Education and the Arts Strategy or other education related projects, please refer to the Australia Council website.

[http://www.ozco.gov.au/council\\_priorities/education/](http://www.ozco.gov.au/council_priorities/education/)

## National

In 1994 the Curriculum Corporation produced a national framework document titled *A Statement on The Arts for Australian Schools* followed in 1997 by *Profiling the Arts*. These volumes form part of a series of statement and profile documents produced across key learning areas. The publication of this series was a significant development in the history of Australian education.

Check you local library catalogue for copies or purchase them directly from the Curriculum Corporation via <http://www.curriculum.edu.au/catalogue/> <search term - the arts>

In April 1999 state, territory and Australian Government ministers of education met as the Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA) in Adelaide. At that meeting, the ministers unanimously endorsed the Adelaide Declaration on National Goals for Schooling in the Twenty-First Century.

This declaration established a foundation for action among state and territory governments, schooling authorities and all those who seek the best possible educational outcomes for young Australians. It covers all eight key learning areas, of which the arts is one.

A high quality education rich in arts and creativity is essential to achievement of the goals which state that students leaving school should be “confident, creative and productive users of new technologies” and have the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for “the creative and satisfying use of leisure time”.

The full declaration can be found at:  
<http://www.mceetya.edu.au/nationalgoals/natgoals.htm>

### **Department of Education, Science and Training**

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Canberra City ACT 2601

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Canberra ACT 2601

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## Australian Capital Territory

The Department of Education and Training is developing the *Curriculum for ACT Schools P – 10: Principles and Framework* for schools to use in developing their curriculum to best suit the needs of their students and school community. The Framework outlines Essential Learning Achievements for students in the compulsory years of schooling. School based curriculum decision making is informed by system and national initiatives and expectations.

The *Curriculum for ACT Schools P – 10: Principles and Framework* covers pre-school, primary and secondary school level. Post secondary (years 11 – 12) curriculum is informed by course frameworks developed by the Board of Senior Secondary Studies.

*Curriculum for ACT Schools P – 10: Principles and Framework*

[http://www.det.act.gov.au/publicat/pdf/full\\_curriculum\\_ACT\\_schools\\_p-10.pdf](http://www.det.act.gov.au/publicat/pdf/full_curriculum_ACT_schools_p-10.pdf)

*ACT Board of Senior Secondary Studies (BSSS)*

<http://www.det.act.gov.au/bsss/welcome.htm>

### **ACT Department of Education and Training**

186 Reed Street  
Greenway ACT 2900

PO Box 1584  
Tuggeranong ACT 2901

Tel 02 6207 5111  
Fax 02 6205 9333

## New South Wales

Established in 1990, the Board of Studies NSW is responsible for developing syllabuses for all schools and systems in NSW – government, catholic and independent. The syllabuses cover school education from Kindergarten to Year 12.

Kindergarten to Year 6

[http://www.bosnsw-k6.nsw.edu.au/arts/arts\\_index.html](http://www.bosnsw-k6.nsw.edu.au/arts/arts_index.html)

Year 7 to Year 10

[http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/syllabus\\_sc/](http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/syllabus_sc/)

High School Certificate (Years 11 and 12)

[http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/syllabus\\_hsc/index.html](http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/syllabus_hsc/index.html)

Other useful resources and information are developed for teachers by the NSW Department of Education and Training. DET also provide professional development opportunities to teachers implementing the syllabuses.

More information can be found at:

<http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/creativearts/index.cfm>

### **Office of the Board of Studies NSW**

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Sydney NSW 2000

GPO Box 5300  
Sydney NSW 2001

Tel 02 9367 8111  
Fax 02 9367 8484

### **NSW Department of Education and Training**

Curriculum K-12 Directorate  
Private bag 3  
Ryde NSW 2112

Tel 02 9886 7117

## Northern Territory

The Northern Territory Curriculum Framework (NTCF) identifies learning outcomes for all Northern Territory learners in classes from Kindergarten to Year 10. It provides the major elements of curriculum around which schools and teachers can select content and teaching methods consistent with local contexts.

Beyond Year 10, Northern Territory students follow the South Australian arts curriculum.

Kindergarten to Year 10

<http://www.deet.nt.gov.au/education/ntcf/index.shtml>

Year 11 and 12

<http://www.ssabsa.sa.edu.au/arts/index.php>

**NT Department of Employment, Education and Training**

PO Box 4821

Darwin NT 0801

Tel 08 8901 4909

Email [infocentre.deet@nt.gov.au](mailto:infocentre.deet@nt.gov.au)

## Queensland

The Department of Education and the Arts was established in February 2004 to support the Minister's joint portfolio responsibilities for education and the arts. These portfolio areas represent the Government's commitment to encourage and engage all Queenslanders in educational, artistic and cultural pursuits.

### **Department of Education and the Arts**

30 Mary Street  
Brisbane  
Queensland 4000

PO Box 15033  
City East  
QLD 4002

Tel 07 3237 0111

The Queensland Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Framework (QCARF) presents the strategies to define essential learnings and set new standards for assessing and reporting student achievement in the early and middle years of schooling in Queensland.

[http://education.qld.gov.au/qcar/pdfs/qcar\\_white\\_paper.pdf](http://education.qld.gov.au/qcar/pdfs/qcar_white_paper.pdf)

The Queensland Studies Authority (QSA) is the statutory body responsible for syllabus development. The QSA develops syllabuses from Early Childhood to Year 12.

Early Years and Preparatory

<http://www.qsa.qld.edu.au/early/index.html>

Years 1-10

<http://www.qsa.qld.edu.au/yrs1to10/kl/arts/syllabus.html>

Years 11-12

[http://www.qsa.qld.edu.au/yrs11\\_12/subjects/index.html](http://www.qsa.qld.edu.au/yrs11_12/subjects/index.html)

### **Queensland Studies Authority**

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Spring Hill QLD 4004

Tel 07 3864 0299  
Fax 07 3221 2553  
Email [office@qsa.qld.edu.au](mailto:office@qsa.qld.edu.au)

## South Australia

The South Australian Curriculum Standards and Accountability (SACSA) Framework is developed by the Department of Education and Children's Services. The framework covers all government schools and children's services and provides the core elements for the basis of schools to develop detailed programs.

The single framework has been designed for four curriculum bands from Birth to Year 12.

[http://www.sacsa.sa.edu.au/index\\_fsrc.asp?t=LA](http://www.sacsa.sa.edu.au/index_fsrc.asp?t=LA)

The SACSA Companion Documents provide guidance to teachers about what might be appropriate learning tasks that support the outcomes and standards in the SACSA Framework.

[http://www.sacsa.sa.edu.au/index\\_fsrc.asp?t=IFP](http://www.sacsa.sa.edu.au/index_fsrc.asp?t=IFP)

In addition to the framework, the Senior Secondary Assessment Board of South Australia (SSABSA) develops Year 11 and 12 curriculum statements for each area of learning. This is the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE).

Year 11 and 12 curriculum statements for the arts can be found at:

<http://www.ssabsa.sa.edu.au/arts/index.php>

### **SA Department of Education and Children's Services Education Centre**

31 Flinders Street  
Adelaide SA 5000

GPO Box 1152  
Adelaide SA 5001

Tel 08 8226 1527  
Freecall 1800 088 158  
E-mail [decscustomers@saugov.sa.gov.au](mailto:decscustomers@saugov.sa.gov.au)

### **SA Senior Secondary Assessment Board of South Australia**

60 Greenhill Road  
Wayville SA 5034

Tel 08 8372 7424  
Email [info@ssabsa.sa.gov.au](mailto:info@ssabsa.sa.gov.au)

## Tasmania

The Department of Education and Training - School Education Division determines educational policy relating to government schools and colleges. They support such organisations through the development of curriculum frameworks standards and resources that apply for students from kindergarten to year 10.

The Tasmanian Qualifications Authority (TQA) manages all services provided as part of the upper secondary school curriculum. The TQA are currently developing a model for accreditation, so changes are likely for 2006.

Kindergarten to Year 10

<http://www.education.tas.gov.au/ocll/publications/default.htm>

Tasmanian Certificate of Education - Year 11-12

<http://www.tassab.tased.edu.au/1054>

### **Department of Education and Training**

116 Bathurst Street

Hobart TAS 7000

GPO Box 169

Hobart TAS 7001

Tel 1300 135 513

Fax 03 6231 1576

### **Tasmanian Qualifications Authority**

PO Box 147

Sandy Bay

Tasmania 7006

Tel 03 6233 6364

Fax 03 6224 0175

## Victoria

Up until the end of 2005, Victorian schools will be using Curriculum Standards Framework (CFS). The Victorian Curriculum and Authority Assessment develop the frameworks, which cover Preparatory to Year 10.

Preparatory – year 10

<http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/prep10/csf/klas/index.html#arts>

Victorian Certificate of Education - Year 11 and 12

<http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vce/studies/index.html>

Alternative, vocational focused frameworks for year 11 and 12 programs with some arts components can be found at the following links:

[www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vet/index.html](http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vet/index.html)

[www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vcal/index.html](http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vcal/index.html)

From 2006, schools will use the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS). Developed by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority as a framework for whole school curriculum planning.

More information about the VELS curriculum can be found at:

<http://vels.vcaa.vic.edu.au/>

### **The Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority**

41 St Andrews Place

East Melbourne

Victoria 3002

Tel 03 9651 4300

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Email [vcaa@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:vcaa@edumail.vic.gov.au)

## Western Australia

The WA Curriculum Council issues the curriculum framework for both government and non-government schools. The framework document outlines the learning outcomes of all students from kindergarten to year 12. Schools use the framework to develop and implement their teaching and learning programs, according to the needs and characteristics of their students.

<http://www.curriculum.wa.edu.au/pages/framework/framework04.htm>

The Curriculum Council is developing new courses of study for years 11 and 12 to replace all of the current subjects between 2005 – 2009.

Opportunities to incorporate VET will be further developed with a VET version of the Visual Arts Course of Study. This involves packaging of national training package qualifications to complete a VET certificate, as well as achieving course outcomes and standards.

[http://newwace.curriculum.wa.edu.au/pages/teachers\\_home.asp](http://newwace.curriculum.wa.edu.au/pages/teachers_home.asp)

### **WA Curriculum Council**

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