

# Embedding the general capabilities

## Prep–Year 10

To meet the demands of the 21st century, Queensland students need to develop the knowledge, skills, behaviours and dispositions required to become active, responsible and engaged global citizens.

The Australian Curriculum general capabilities, together with the curriculum content of each learning area and the cross-curriculum priorities, form part of the Australian Curriculum's three-dimensional curriculum design. Through implementing the general capabilities in Prep to Year 10, schools can equip their students with the knowledge, skills, behaviours and dispositions they need now and for the future.

## General capabilities

The Australian Curriculum has seven general capabilities that are divided into two groups:

- capabilities that support students to be successful learners, including literacy, numeracy, information and communication technology capability, and critical and creative thinking
- capabilities that develop ways of being, behaving and learning to live with others, including personal and social capability, ethical behaviour and intercultural understanding.

Each capability is organised into six levels to show the conceptual divisions and the alignment to specific years of schooling.

**Table 1: Alignment of the general capabilities to the year levels**

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
By the end of Prep	By the end of Year 2	By the end of Year 4	By the end of Year 6	By the end of Year 8	By the end of Year 10

Additional divisions (levels) are provided within level 1 for literacy, numeracy, and personal and social capability, allowing teachers to plan for students who are working prior to Foundation (Prep) in these areas of development. These divisions emphasise communication, early numeracy, awareness of self and others, and the skills and actions associated with self and others.

**Table 2: Summary of additional levels for students working prior to Prep**

General capability	Levels
Literacy	1a–1e
Numeracy	1a–1b
Personal and social capability	1a–1b

# Considerations for teaching and learning

The general capabilities are embedded in the learning area content descriptions. When implementing the general capabilities, students should be given opportunities to develop skills that are associated with content specific to the learning area, as well as connecting knowledge and skills across learning areas. Schools should ensure the general capabilities are both embedded within curriculum/school plans and taught to students. Planned learning opportunities should specifically target each of the general capabilities and the associated skills where appropriate.

Teachers are encouraged to:

- model the general capabilities within a variety of contexts
- identify connections between the learning area/subject and the general capabilities
- provide a variety of learning activities that support development of the general capabilities
- provide opportunities for students to practise the general capabilities as authentic elements of the learning area/subject
- provide feedback to students about their progress toward developing the general capabilities.

The QCAA has developed resources to support teachers when planning teaching and learning:

- [Level overviews](#) show the development of all seven general capabilities within a single level.
- [Learning continuums](#) for each individual general capability are labelled from level 1–6 to present a sequence of learning independent of year levels.

For more information, see ACARA's pages on [General capabilities](#) and [Student diversity](#).