

Embedding the cross-curriculum priorities

Advice for schools

The Australian Curriculum cross-curriculum priorities, together with learning area content and the general capabilities, form the Australian Curriculum's three-dimensional curriculum design. The dimensions outline the essential knowledge, understanding and skills all young Australians should be taught and have the opportunity to learn, to enable them to contribute to, and shape their world now and in the future.

Cross-curriculum priorities support the Australian Curriculum to be a relevant, contemporary and engaging curriculum that reflects national, regional and global contexts. They provide opportunities to enrich the content of learning areas, allowing students to engage with and better understand their world. Cross-curriculum priorities are incorporated in learning area content in ways that are appropriate and authentic; they are not separate learning areas or subjects.

The three cross-curriculum priorities in the Australian Curriculum are:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures
- Asia and Australia's engagement with Asia
- Sustainability.

Each cross-curriculum priority identifies aspects and organising ideas that provide a scaffold to support teachers in developing the knowledge, understanding and skills of the priority and promoting connections between the priority and learning area content.

Considerations for planning

When developing teaching and learning sequences that address a cross-curriculum priority, teachers are encouraged to:

- draw on their school's context to support and inform the integration of the priority within their individual setting
- use the aspects and organising ideas of the priority as scaffolding to relate and develop content knowledge, understanding and skills within the learning area/s
- refer to the relevant QCAA resource from the following list
 - *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures: Cross-curriculum priority* (PDF)
 - *Asia and Australia's engagement with Asia: Cross-curriculum priority* (PDF)
 - *Sustainability: Cross-curriculum priority* (PDF).

Where directly related to learning area content, the organising ideas of each cross-curriculum priority are embedded in achievement standards and content descriptions throughout the Australian Curriculum, as outlined in Table 1.

For learning areas/subjects where the cross-curriculum priorities are not explicitly addressed in achievement standards or content descriptions, there may still be opportunities for relevant cross-curriculum priorities to be authentically incorporated.

Table 1: Mapping of cross-curriculum priorities in the Australian Curriculum achievement standards and content descriptions

	English	Health and Physical Education	Humanities and Social Sciences					Languages				Mathematics	Science	Technologies		The Arts				
			HASS P-6	Civics and Citizenship	Economics and Business	Geography	History	Chinese	French	German	Japanese			Design and Technologies	Digital Technologies	Dance	Drama	Media Arts	Music	Visual Arts
Prep	●		●				●			●						●	●	●	●	●
Year 1	●		●				●			●		●	●			●	●	●	●	●
Year 2	●		●				●			●		●	●			●	●	●	●	●
Year 3	●		●				●			●		●	●			●	●	●	●	●
Year 4	●		● ●				●			●		●	●			●	●	●	●	●
Year 5	●		●				●			●		● ●	●			●	●	●	●	●
Year 6	●		● ●				●			●		● ●	●			●	●	●	●	●
Year 7	●			●		● ●	●	●		●		● ●	●			●	●	●	●	●
Year 8	●			●	●	● ●	●	●		●		● ●	●			●	●	●	●	●
Year 9	●				●	● ●	●	●		●		● ●	●			●	●	●	●	●
Year 10	●			● ●		● ●	●	●		●		● ●	●			●	●	●	●	●

● Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures ● Asia and Australia's engagement with Asia ● Sustainability

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