

Learning area overview

Prep–Year 10 Australian Curriculum

P–6 Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)

Australian Curriculum Version 8

The Australian Curriculum defines a solid foundation in knowledge, understanding, skills and values for all Australian students. This overview summarises key elements of this learning area.

Key ideas

Who we are, who came before us, and traditions and values that have shaped societies.

How societies and economies operate and how they are changing over time.

The ways people, places, ideas and events are perceived and connected.

How people exercise their responsibilities, participate in society and make informed decisions.

HASS in P–6

The HASS learning area consists of one subject in P–6 and four subjects in 7–10: History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business. This overview provides information specific to the P–6 subject. A separate overview is provided for the 7–10 subjects.

Subjects

P–6 HASS

Concepts of interdisciplinary thinking

The following concepts underpin P–6 HASS understanding: significance (P–6), continuity and change (P–6), cause and effect (2–6), place and space (P–6), interconnections (2–6), roles, rights and responsibilities (1–6) and perspectives and action (P–6).

Key inquiry questions

HASS inquiry questions provide possible learning connections between two or more sub-strands for each year. Sub-strand inquiry questions provide a framework for knowledge and understanding, inquiry and skills.

Content descriptions

Content descriptions describe what is to be taught and what students are expected to learn. Content descriptions are organised through strands and sub-strands.

Strand	Knowledge and understanding	Inquiry and skills
	History	Questioning
	Geography	Researching
Sub-strands	Civics and Citizenship (3–6)	Analysing
	Economics and Business (5–6)	Evaluating and reflecting
		Communicating

Achievement standards

Achievement standards for each learning area or subject describe the learning expected of students at each year level or band of years. In HASS, the first paragraph of the achievement standard relates to understanding and the second

paragraph relates to inquiry and skills. In P–6 HASS, this subject provides a choice between two achievement standards for each year. One achievement standard is sub-strand-specific, and the other is for the subject.

P–6 Rationale summary

Humanities and Social Sciences empowers students to shape change, make informed decisions, solve problems and contribute to a cohesive society, sustainable environment, productive economy and stable democracy.

P–6 Aims summary

Humanities and Social Sciences Develops knowledge about, and understanding of, people, places, values and systems and the capacity to use inquiry skills to effectively participate in everyday life, now and in the future.

P–6 Year-by-year and banded curriculum

Year description

Provides an overview of knowledge, understanding, concepts of interdisciplinary thinking, key inquiry questions and skills for each year.

Year-by-year curriculum for	Banded curriculum for
Knowledge and understanding	Inquiry and skills
Primary	
P	P–2
1	
2	3–4
3	
4	5–6
5	
6	

Find out more on the QCAA Australian Curriculum web page at <https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/p-10/aciq>