Learning area overview
Prep–Year 10 Australian Curriculum

Science

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.

**Rationale summary**
Supporting students to develop scientific knowledge, understanding and skills to enable them to make informed decisions about local, national and global issues while nurturing their natural curiosity about the world around them.

**Aims summary**
Exploring, explaining and predicting phenomena using a range of scientific inquiry methods to make informed, evidence-based decisions when evaluating and debating scientific decisions.

### Key ideas
The key ideas represent scientific views of the world and bridge knowledge and understanding across the interrelated strands of science.

- **Patterns, order and organisation**
- **Form and function**
- **Stability and change**
- **Scale and measurement**
- **Matter and energy**
- **Systems**

### Intent of interrelated strands

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Science understanding</th>
<th>Science as a human endeavour</th>
<th>Science inquiry skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>taught in context</td>
<td>informed by inquiry model</td>
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</table>

### 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Science understanding</th>
<th>Science as a human endeavour</th>
<th>Science inquiry skills</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biological sciences</td>
<td>Nature and development of science</td>
<td>Questioning and predicting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical sciences</td>
<td>Use and influence of science</td>
<td>Planning and conducting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Earth and space sciences</td>
<td>Processing and analysing data and information</td>
<td>Evaluating</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical sciences</td>
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<td>Communicating</td>
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### 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 Science, the first paragraph of the achievement standard relates to understanding and the second paragraph relates to skills. This learning area provides an achievement standard for each year.

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