

Time allocations and entitlement

Advice on implementing the Australian Curriculum F(P)–10

Using the advice

The Queensland Studies Authority (QSA) in collaboration with state, independent and Catholic school sectors has developed the following advice about time allocations and entitlement as a starting point for decisions about timetabling.

The advice is based on information available in July 2011 and includes indicative times for learning areas which have not been developed. The advice may change as decisions about the Australian Curriculum learning areas are finalised. Schools should seek further advice about time allocations from the relevant school sector.

Time allocations

The hours in Table 1 (page 2) present two sets of minimum hours per year that provide reasonable flexibility. Schools may decide to timetable more hours for a learning area.

The hours do not assume how schools should organise learning and are not required hours. The number of hours is based on:

- the indicative times used by the curriculum writers
- the available teaching weeks each year, based on:
 - 37–40 weeks for F(Prep)–Year 9
 - 35–38 weeks for Year 10.

Languages learning area

The languages learning area is shaded with diagonal lines. This indicates flexibility about when language learning can begin and demonstrates a focus on developing proficiency.

School sectors will provide further advice to schools about languages learning when the Australian Curriculum for languages is developed.

Entitlement

Table 1 includes the learning areas described in the *Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians* (2008).*

- The shaded areas indicate the learning areas and year levels.
- The unshaded areas indicate the year levels when the learning area is optional.

* Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs 2008, *Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians*, MCEETYA, <www.mceecdy.edu.au/verve/_resources/National_Declaration_on_the_Educational_Goals_for_Young_Australians.pdf>.

If the learning area is offered, the curriculum will be developed using the Australian Curriculum content descriptions and achievement standards.

Table 1: Advice on time allocations

Learning area	Hours per year over 37–40 weeks per year					35–38 wks/yr 10	
	P–2	3–4	5–6	7–8	9		
English	250–270	203–220	185–200	111–120	111–120	105–114	
Mathematics	166–180	166–180	148–160	111–120	111–120	105–114	
Science	37–40	64–70	64–70	92–100	111–120	105–114	
Health & PE	74–80	74–80	74–80	74–80	74–80	70–76	
Humanities & Social Science	History	18–20	37–40	37–40	46–50	46–50	43–48
	Geography	18–20	37–40	37–40	46–50	46–50	43–48
	Economics & business			18–20	18–20	46–50	43–48
	Civics & citizenship		18–20	18–20	18–20	18–20	17–19
The Arts	37–40	46–50	46–50	74–80	74–80	70–76	
Languages		46–50		74–80	74–80	70–76	
Technologies	Design & technology	18–20	37–40	55–60	74–80	37–40	35–38
	ICT					37–40	35–38

Table 2: Total percentages of time allocations

	P–2	3–4	5–6	7–8	9	10
Total percentage of allocated time (approx.)	72%	72%	79%	79%	49% [†]	49% [†]
Total percentage of unallocated time (approx.)	28%	28%	21%	21%	51%	51%

More information

If you would like more information, visit the QSA website and access *Timetabling and other practical ideas*, prepared for the QSA by Mike Middleton: www.qsa.qld.edu.au/downloads/publications/snr_syll_rv_ppr_tmtbl_prac.pdf

Or please email: australiancurriculum@qsa.qld.edu.au

[†] Excludes elective options in Years 9–10