



Our Ref: 2026/55341[v3]

To the Principal  
All Western Australian Secondary Schools

Dear Principal

I am writing with an update on the work of the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (the Authority). I hope Term 3 has started well for you.

### **Adopting and adapting the Australian Curriculum version 9**

The Authority continues to support schools to implement the Humanities and Social Sciences, Mathematics, Science, and Technologies learning areas as part of adopting and adapting the Australian Curriculum version 9 within the *Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline* (the *Outline*). Thank you for encouraging and supporting your staff to participate in the professional learning provided by the Authority in Semester 1.

Languages and The Arts (Pre-primary to Year 10) remain in the familiarisation phase. In Semester 1, 2026, the Authority supported schools through targeted professional learning, including one day of teacher relief funding for schools with students in these year levels. This funding may also be used to support whole-school planning for implementation in 2027.

The Authority is offering further online briefings and workshops in Term 3 to support schools with familiarisation with the revised Pre-primary to Year 10 Languages and The Arts Curriculum. Sessions include one-hour curriculum familiarisation briefings, repeating the sessions offered in Term 2, as well as half-day workshops for teachers in remote and regional areas and those unable to attend the remaining scheduled in-person workshops.

Registration for the briefings and workshops is via the Authority Events page at <https://scsa.wa.edu.au/news-and-events/all-events>. Further information about curriculum familiarisation is available at <https://k10outline.scsa.wa.edu.au/home/resources/revised-western-australian-curriculum-familiarisation>.

The Western Australian Curriculum, as published in the *Outline*, remains mandated for all Western Australian schools and must continue to be implemented until advised otherwise. Schools will be required to teach the revised year-level curriculum for Languages and The Arts from 2027.

### **Aboriginal Histories and Cultures**

I was pleased to attend the launch of the Authority's Humanities and Social Sciences: History Year 5 and Year 9 curriculum support resources – *'The Pinjarra Massacre: Truth-telling: An apology on October 28, 2025 to the Bindjareb Noongar people by His Excellency the Honourable Chris Dawson AC APM Governor of Western Australia'*.

The resources include eight lessons for the mandated Western Australian Curriculum using primary sources for truth-telling through the lens of Governor Dawson's apology for the Pinjarra Massacre. They cover curriculum content relating to country and people, and the effects of colonisation, the Pinjarra Massacre, and truth-telling and remembrance.

The lessons support students to critically examine different perspectives and understand how perspectives change over time, in a culturally sensitive and age-appropriate manner.

The resources are available on the Authority website at

<https://k10outline.scsa.wa.edu.au/home/wa-curriculum/learning-areas/humanities-and-social-sciences/p-10-hass-teaching>.

I would like to thank the many people involved in the development of the resources, including His Excellency the Honourable Chris Dawson AC APM Governor of Western Australia and Mrs Dawson along with the Reference Group featuring representatives of the school systems/sector, experienced educators, Government House and community members. The Authority is grateful to the Traditional Owners, Elders, nominated representatives, educators, copyright owners and other contributors whose knowledge, advice and generosity strengthened the authenticity and purpose of the materials.

The Authority is working with the school systems/sector to develop and deliver professional learning to support teachers in using the resources. The professional learning will focus on the key content, sequencing of learning, accompanying resources and trauma-informed practice considerations. Further details will be communicated in upcoming Circulars.

### **Support for planning multi-age classes in Years 7 to 10**

In response to feedback from regional schools, the Authority is developing guidance to support teachers in planning and delivering teaching and learning programs for multi-age classes in Years 7 to 10. This reflects the Authority's commitment to ensuring that all schools have access to practical resources that support high-quality curriculum delivery.

The guidance will include curriculum planning approaches, sample planning templates, and examples of teaching and learning programs designed to support teaching across multiple year levels within a single class.

Schools can continue to access existing teaching support materials on the Authority website at <https://k10outline.scsa.wa.edu.au/home/teaching/teaching-support-materials>. Further information will be provided via the Circulars as additional resources become available.

### **Practical and written Australian Tertiary Admission Rank course examinations**

In June 2026, the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) course examination timetable was published on the Authority website at <https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/assessment/examinations/examination-timetables>. Students will be able to access their personal examination timetables for the ATAR course practical and written examinations from Tuesday, 8 September 2026 via the student portal.

All candidates for the ATAR course examinations – practical and written – should be aware of the rules of conduct for the examinations. These are available on the Authority website at <https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/assessment/examinations/rules-of-conduct-for-atar-course-examinations>. It is important Year 12 students preparing for the practical ATAR course examinations remember the need for anonymity. For practical performance and oral examinations, candidates must not wear or carry anything that identifies them or any person, school, club or achievements. For practical production and portfolio examinations, the anonymity of the candidate, school and/or teachers must be preserved.

**Moderation**

Consensus moderation continues this term with 22 sessions across six courses scheduled between Tuesday, 28 July and Friday, 21 August. These sessions focus on using the grade descriptions for selected courses to determine a grade through the review of student assessment files. The sessions will also focus on assessment practice and the development and implementation of valid and appropriate school-based assessment tasks. Following each session, participants and Principals will receive a summary of grading judgement feedback and reflection via email allowing teachers to follow up on the feedback.

This term, selected schools will be involved in the Assessment Task Review (ATR). The ATR supports teachers to develop assessment tasks and marking keys that reflect the appropriate pitch and demand of the course and meet the syllabus requirements. The process will provide feedback to teachers and schools to inform the future development of quality assessment tasks and marking keys. Following the Authority's review of the documents, a report for each course will be available to schools at the conclusion of Term 3.

**Syllabus review**

Syllabus reviews ensure course content remains relevant, contemporary and responsive to the needs of students, teachers and the community. Reviews are underway for the Years 11 and 12 ATAR Languages courses, the Years 11 and 12 General Arts courses, the General Framework for Languages, and the Years 11 and 12 Aviation, English, and Materials Design and Technology ATAR and General courses.

Work has commenced on two new courses: Years 11 and 12 General Digital Technologies and Years 11 and 12 Foundation Science. Reviews have also commenced for the Years 11 and 12 Business Management and Enterprise ATAR and General, Health Studies ATAR and General, Human Biology ATAR, Mathematics Applications, Mathematics Methods, Philosophy and Ethics ATAR, and Politics and Law ATAR courses.

The Authority will continue to work closely with Curriculum Advisory Committees, teachers, professional associations and stakeholders. Opportunities for consultation and feedback will be communicated through the Circular.

**Years 11 and 12 Languages**

The Authority has continued its work on Languages available to students in Years 11 and 12. Following the syllabus review acceptance surveys, the Board of the Authority has

- endorsed the Indonesian ATAR course syllabuses for teaching in Year 11 from 2027 and Year 12 from 2028
- endorsed the French, German and Italian: Background Language syllabuses for teaching in Year 11 from 2027 and Year 12 from 2028
- approved the implementation of the new course syllabuses for second language Chinese, French, German, Italian and Japanese ATAR for teaching in Year 11 from 2028 and Year 12 from 2029.

**Western Australian Certificate of Education Refreshment  
Additional senior secondary certification pathway**

The Authority has received \$6.9 million over four years through the State Budget 2026–27 to develop and implement an additional senior secondary certification pathway for students who are currently unable to achieve the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE).

Provisionally called WACE Access, the pathway will recognise senior secondary learning for students whose needs, circumstances or pathways due to disability or disengagement mean the current WACE requirements are not suitable or accessible. Available to Year 11 students from 2028, it will support transitions to post-school education, training, employment and/or community participation.

The Authority will provide information to schools as it continues work on this element of the WACE Refreshment. Schools will receive all relevant details of the WACE Access pathway early in Term 2 2027 to support course counselling for eligible students in Year 10.

### **Certificate IV and Diploma Qualifications**

From 2028, only Certificate IV qualifications that appear on the Authority's *Certificate IV Specified List* will contribute unit equivalents for students towards WACE achievement.

In Term 2, registered training organisations (RTOs) were invited to apply for Certificate IV qualifications coded red or amber on the Department of Training and Workforce Development's *Vocational Education and Training Delivered to Secondary Students: Qualifications Register* (VET Register) to be added to the *Certificate IV Specified List*. Following the first round of applications, the *Certificate IV Specified List* was published on the Authority website at <https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/vet/all-about-vet>. Frequently asked questions are also available on this page.

RTOs were able to apply for green-coded qualifications on the VET Register to be included on the *Certificate IV Specified List*. RTOs were also able to apply or re-apply in Round 2 for red- or amber-coded Certificate IV qualifications to be included on the *Certificate IV Specified List*. Round 2 applications closed on Monday, 10 August 2026.

Queries should be emailed to [vetinfo@scsa.wa.edu.au](mailto:vetinfo@scsa.wa.edu.au).

I wish you all the best for the semester ahead.

Yours sincerely



**PAULINE WHITE**  
**CHAIR**  
**SCHOOL CURRICULUM AND STANDARDS AUTHORITY**

17 August 2026