

## Tasmanian Curriculum 2008

### What's really happening to the LTAG?

#### Resources from the LTAG are being enhanced to help teachers implement the Tasmanian Curriculum.

The LTAG was designed to help educators implement the Essential Learnings framework. As a result, many of the resources in the LTAG are Essential Learnings-specific. However, a substantial quantity of LTAG resources – including research about teaching and learning, teaching strategies and information about thinking – remain highly relevant to teachers using the refined Tasmanian Curriculum.

These resources will be available from the eCentre and will be accessible from June 16 2008. The resources include:

- **Revised and enhanced** resources from the LTAG
- **Curriculum materials** including syllabus documents, curriculum overviews, units of work (learning sequences), scope and sequence resources, and planning and assessment tools
- An extensive **teaching and learning** section including: implementing the curriculum; effective teaching; understanding the learner; thinking; professional learning; cross-curricula connections; assessing; curriculum initiatives and a curriculum library.
- An extensive **resource and support** section including: supporting students with special and/or additional needs; learning services contacts; online learning network (eCentre); Skills Tasmania; the early years; statewide curriculum team contacts; FAQs and suggest a resource
- A detailed **reporting** section including: reporting requirements, assessing resources, national assessment and reporting, links and SARIS.
- Access to curriculum and other **online tools** including Sharepoints.

More resources will be added in response to teacher needs. The site will be continually reviewed by teachers in all curriculum areas for content, accessibility and navigability.

For more information, contact [nigel.brown@education.tas.gov.au](mailto:nigel.brown@education.tas.gov.au) (Phone 03 62123317)

#### In this Issue:

From the Manager  
LTAG resources **2**

Thinking **2**

ICT Update  
Legacy – a guide for  
teachers (New resource) **3**

Legacy – A Guide for  
Teachers **4**

AuSSI (Sustainable  
Schools) Update **4**

*Please read the “From the Manager” editorial on page 2 of this edition for a further perspective on web resources for the Tasmanian Curriculum*

## Thinking in the Tasmanian Curriculum

The approach to thinking in the Tasmanian curriculum builds on how thinking was described in the Essential Learnings Framework. Thinking was at the 'heart' of the Essentials and largely described in two key elements – inquiry and reflective thinking. Thinking was also a culminating outcome, with students “able to reason, question, make decisions and solve complex problems. As reflective thinkers they will be emphatic and able to make ethical decisions about issues, events and actions”.

Extensive feedback from teachers during the curriculum refinement process and syllabus development strongly suggested that **the focus on thinking be retained but embedded in all curriculum areas**. Describing thinking separately caused some confusion.

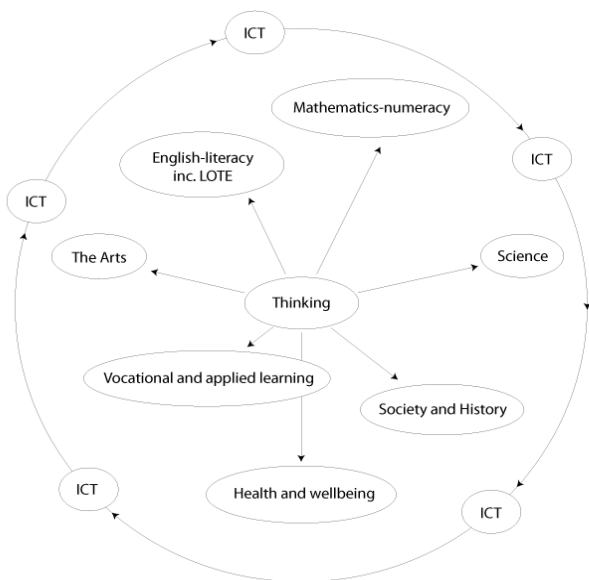
Thinking is now central to all areas in the Tasmanian Curriculum and embedded in all areas including ICT.

A shared goal for Tasmanian students is that they are “able to think, know and understand”.

The Tasmanian Curriculum retains the strong emphasis on inquiry and reflection but thinking skills are now contextualised in each curriculum area and within the disciplines relevant to each area.

For example, the Science and Society and History syllabus documents share some aspects of inquiry but describe scientific inquiry (Science) and historical inquiry (Society and History) using the content, skills and processes of each curriculum area.

Links between curriculum areas can allow students to develop thinking skills using language and literacy, for example, in English-literacy (LOTE) and all curriculum areas.



There is an extensive section on thinking in the new Curriculum Centre web resource (live from 16 June 2006 at [eCentre - Department of Education](#))

Sections include:

- Thinking in the Tasmanian Curriculum
- How is thinking 'different' in the Tasmanian Curriculum?
- Thinking in the curriculum areas
- Approaches to thinking
- Thinking skills, strategies, tools, techniques, tactics...
- References and going further

## From the Manager....

In the same way that key understandings and concepts from the Els have been [retained or refined](#) in the Tasmanian Curriculum, key resources from the LTAG have been carefully refined, edited and enhanced for the Department's new web resource for teachers, the Curriculum Centre.

Teachers using the Tasmanian Curriculum will immediately find extensive resources and online tools when they access the Curriculum Centre resource from June 16 2008. A key part of this is a *curriculum library* search function in the site. To help make the resource as user-friendly, dynamic and relevant as possible we want feedback from you, our clients. I encourage you to visit the site and complete the brief online survey that will help us continue to refine and build the resource.

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the many teachers and other educators in Tasmania who helped contribute to the LTAG and build its deserved reputation as a dynamic educational resource.

With your cooperation and input, I am confident that we can continue to build high quality, flexible and accessible resources to support the education of Tasmanian students.

For questions or comments about curriculum implementation, email [irene.gray@education.tas.gov.au](mailto:irene.gray@education.tas.gov.au)

## ICT cross curricular framework and Year 6 and 10 Checklists

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in the Tasmanian Curriculum are described as a set of teaching tools to assist students to achieve across the whole curriculum.

The ICT cross-curricular framework provides teachers with performance indicators from stages 1-15 to guide their teaching and help ensure that all teachers contribute to the building of skills listed in the Year 6 and 10 checklists.

The Year 6 Checklist is aligned to Stage 8 and the Year 10 Checklist is aligned to Stage 13.

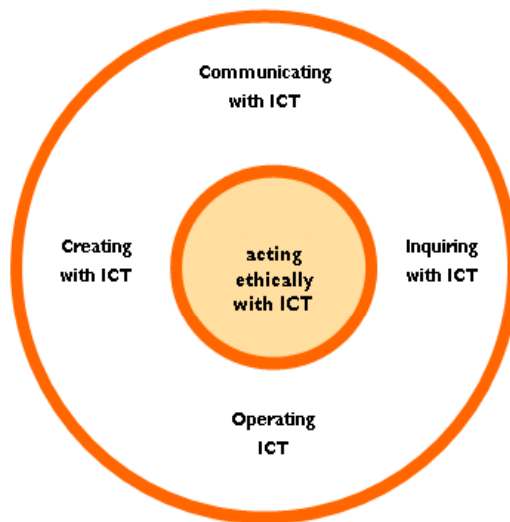
The performance indicators are accompanied by detailed sample learning opportunities for all curriculum areas and across all strands of learning in ICT. Useful ICT resources are also listed for each strand and standard.

The strands are influenced by the national Statements of Learning for ICT:

- Inquiring with ICT
- Creating with ICT
- Communicating with ICT and
- Operating ICT.

Behaving ethically with ICT is embedded across all four strands.

*Strands of the ICT cross-curricular framework*



After full consultation, the ICT cross-curricular framework and Year 6 and 10 Checklists will be available in June 2008.

For support in implementing the material or for more information, contact the ICT Curriculum Project Officer, Larissa Brenner [larissa.brenner@education.tas.gov.au](mailto:larissa.brenner@education.tas.gov.au)

### Legacy – A guide for teachers

Hobart Legacy and the Department of Education recently launched *Legacy – a guide for teachers*. Students at Albuera Street Primary School interviewed many veterans and beneficiaries of Legacy, a voluntary organisation committed to helping the widows and dependents of those who have served in the Australian defence forces.



The resource examines the place of Legacy in the past, present and future in Tasmania. Interviews, historical information about the role and values of legacy and teacher notes, questions and activities form a key part of this resource. *Legacy – a guide for teachers* is designed for use with the Society and History curriculum.

For more information and to obtain a free copy of the resource for your school, please contact [julie.fisher@education.tas.gov.au](mailto:julie.fisher@education.tas.gov.au) or phone 03 62123313.

## AuSSI (Sustainable Schools) <http://www.environment.gov.au/education/aussi/>

Curriculum Matters 1.3 contained an overview of the AuSSI Project – to access this visit:  
<http://www.education.tas.gov.au/curriculum/resources/updates>



### What is happening in Tasmanian AuSSI schools?

Examples of sustainability projects in the 12 project schools include:

- Outdoor classrooms / Learnsapes are being created e.g. Lenah Valley Primary School has an outdoor classroom at the Haldane Reserve, supported through a partnership with Transend, Greening Australia and the Hobart City Council.
- Lansdowne Crescent Primary School, an inner city school is becoming a habitat island and a wildlife corridor.
- King Island District High School is considering the social, environmental and economic implications of the school through assessing its ecological footprint and that of its community.

The impact of the AuSSI TAS programs spreads beyond the gates of the 12 project schools to their wider communities through the ideas that their students take home.

Some of these ideas are:

- composting and gardening practices from Rosetta High School, South Georgetown Primary School and The Woodbridge School
- rubbish free lunches and lunch boxes at Lenah Valley Primary School and Lansdowne Primary School
- paper recycling practices and rethinking water usage at all AuSSI TAS schools

We would like to thank the many schools who have sent through their audits and remind others that it is not too late to do so. Congratulations to Brooks HS and Bridport PS for winning their worm farms.

For more information and support contact: Jenny Dudgeon, Lenah Valley Primary School on 03 62280311 or email [jenny.dudgeon@education.tas.gov.au](mailto:jenny.dudgeon@education.tas.gov.au)

### For curriculum and professional learning support, contact your Manager (Learning)

**South-east**  
[Judy Travers](#)  
Ph 6212 3503

**South**  
[Bob Phillips](#)  
Ph 6212 3502

**North**  
[Kevin Fagan](#)  
Ph 6336 4474

**North-west**  
[Kim Bennett](#)  
Ph 6434 7224

### Curriculum Team

The state wide Curriculum Team is available to work with teachers and school leaders in all four learning services.

Please feel free to contact them to work with you in implementing the Tasmanian curriculum.

#### Manager—[Dr Irene Gray](#)— Ph 6233842

PEO English-literacy: [Annette Moults](#)—62123315

Curriculum Officer English-literacy: [Pam Powell](#)—Ph 62123306

PEO LOTE (Languages): [Sue Tolbert](#)—Ph 62337331

Curriculum Officer LOTE: [Janine Davison](#)—Ph 62335071

Curriculum Officer Mathematics-numeracy: [Denise Neal](#)—Ph 62123308

PEO Science: [Denise Devitt](#)—Ph 62123302

PEO Society and History: [Julie Fisher](#)—Ph 62123313

PEO Health and wellbeing: [Toni Gray](#)—Ph 62123314

PEO Arts: [Frank Bansel](#)—Ph 62337334 (ON LEAVE); if urgent, contact:

Curriculum Officers Music: [Di O'Toole](#)—Ph 62337739 and

[Rob Greenwood](#)—Ph 62 335012

Curriculum Project Officer Vocational and Applied Learning—[Tony Woodward](#) - 62123319

Curriculum Project Officer ICTs: [Larissa Brenner](#)—Ph 62286239

Asia Education / Values Education: [Jan Kiernan](#)—Ph 62337938

Curriculum Resources: [Nigel Brown](#)—Ph 62123317

Next issue: June 23rd 2008

Curriculum area updates

Curriculum area Sharepoints

Curriculum Centre update

National Curriculum update