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Downloadable curriculum implementation guides

<http://www.ecentre.education.tas.gov.au/default.aspx>

A series of downloadable one page guides has just been added to the **Teaching and Learning** section of the eCentre.

Topics include:

- Writing learning sequences / units of work
- Thinking in the Tasmanian curriculum
- Developing scope and sequence
- Cross-curricular connections
- Curriculum change
- Reporting to parents
- Differentiating the curriculum
- Assessing as, of and for learning
- Inquiry in the Tasmanian curriculum
- Curriculum areas ‘at a glance’ – one page overviews of each of the areas of the Tasmanian curriculum.

These guides are designed as relatively straightforward, introductory materials to assist teachers and school leaders with curriculum implementation. They can be adapted for use with other groups including parents.

To comment or to suggest a resource please contact nigel.brown@education.tas.gov.au



eCentre for Teachers
Teaching and learning

Members of the state wide curriculum team are available to work with teachers and school leaders in all Learning Services. Contact details are provided on page 4 of this newsletter. To guarantee a service, we would appreciate giving curriculum officers as much notice as possible, particularly for support with scheduled Student Free Days and staff meetings.



Breadth and balance in the curriculum

All students in Tasmania are entitled to a quality curriculum and opportunities for learning that provide them with sufficient breadth and balance in their education. Breadth, balance and equity are key principles underpinning many aspects of curriculum design, implementation and provision.

Breadth in the curriculum refers to coverage of a sufficiently comprehensive range of areas of learning. The areas of the Tasmanian curriculum, together with the emphasis on thinking and ICT in all areas, provide a sound basis from which schools can scope, sequence and personalise learning for all students. The curriculum areas emphasise common values, purposes and goals for learning and are based on shared principles of learning, teaching and assessment.

All curriculum areas emphasise the development of knowledge, skills and understanding; and the importance of literacy, numeracy, thinking and ICT. The curriculum provides a sound basis for students' personal growth, further learning and work, and preparation for the opportunities and challenges of living in a complex world.

Balance in the curriculum ensures that appropriate time is allocated to each area of the curriculum and that provision is made for a sufficient variety of learning experiences for all students.

All areas of the Tasmanian curriculum are valued and important.

The Department of Education specifies minimum requirements for curriculum provision to satisfy national educational agreements and state reporting commitments. English-literacy and Mathematics-numeracy are mandated in all years of schooling; ICT is embedded in all curriculum areas; and Science and Society and History must be studied at least to, and including year 9. Students in English-literacy, Mathematics-numeracy, Science and Society and History receive reports with written comments and moderated assessment against state standards and stages. Primary students in Health and wellbeing, Arts and Vocational and Applied Learning receive reports with written comments using the language of the standards and stages. Secondary students in these curriculum areas receive reports with teacher comments and moderated assessments. Students receive ICT reporting information about their progress against the Year 6 and Year 10 skills checklists.

The Department does not specify time allocations for particular curriculum areas or subjects. How time is allocated to each area of the curriculum and particular subjects is a school decision, based on local needs, resources and priorities.

Schools in consultation with parents and students are best placed to make decisions about the personal learning program of each student.

However, these are important decisions that should also take account of the underlying priority of providing an engaging, challenging, broad and balanced curriculum for all students.

I would be very pleased to hear how your school is providing for breadth and balance in the curriculum so that these ideas can be shared with other schools in future editions of *Curriculum Matters* and other forums.

For questions or comments about the curriculum, email irene.gray@education.tas.gov.au

For **Curriculum Matters** on the web visit <http://www.education.tas.gov.au/curriculum/resources/updates>

Public information about the curriculum can be accessed at: <http://www.education.tas.gov.au/curriculum>



AuSSI Sustainable Schools Tasmania – September update



AuSSI Pilot Schools are busy implementing their sustainability projects as indicated below.

For more information contact the named teacher, the AuSSI Project Officer Jenny Dudgeon, or visit <http://www.education.tas.gov.au/curriculum/sustainable>.

King Island District High School

duncan.mcfie@education.tas.gov.au

- partnerships with Village Green and Oz Green through and DIER Community Grant to reduce and conserve energy usage
- waste minimisation program in the early years
- rubbish free lunch boxes
- Grade 5 & 6 social / historical impacts of local government

The Hutchins School

Anthony.hyland@hutchins.tas.edu.au

- Waste and biodiversity focus
- working with Southern Waste Strategy Authority to conduct waste audit -establish goals and develop processes to achieve these

Mt Faulkner Primary

tony.poynter@education.tas.gov.au

- clear goals through the School Environmental Management Plan
- conducting Professional learning to link sustainability to Science and across the curriculum
- waste reduction/recycling - rubbish free lunches introduced
- strong Birth to 4 program supporting healthy social sustainability - healthy eating/rubbish free lunches

Blackmans Bay Primary

karen.wilson@education.tas.gov.au

- won a Tasmanian *Together* Award (primary category) to sponsor school participation in the Tasmanian Youth Conference focus on TT Goals 11 & 12
- Presentation on Tasmania *Together* Goal 12: Sustainable Management of our Natural Resources
- Whole school focus on waste reduction - veggie gardens, paper recycling, managing school grounds

South Georgetown Primary

della.white@education.tas.gov.au

- Waste and biodiversity focus
- working with Southern Waste Strategy Authority to conduct waste audit – set goals and strategies
- partners - Parks and Wildlife working to develop knowledge of local habitats

Rokeby High School

Peter.veness@education.tas.gov.au

- biodiversity focus
- examining other issues at Rokeby High School

Rosetta Primary School

gabrielle.hill@education.tas.gov.au

- Sustainability professional learning focus for all staff
- curriculum focus for the whole school
- developing plans for a Sustainability Expo Term 3
- Waste focus

Woodbridge District High School

david.higgins@education.tas.gov.au

- maintaining innovative programs
- partnerships with Green Corp for community projects

Lenah Valley Primary (lead school)

jenny.dudgeon@education.tas.gov.au

- Waste and water usage - \$50,000 community water grant to install 30,000 litre tanks and retro fit toilets - a result of student inquiry
- Blue scope steel "tank a day" through the community registering hits on the 'tank a day' website
- Community partnerships with Transend who are funding Greening Australia experts to grow our knowledge about our outdoor classroom at the Haldane Reserve. Partnership with HCC re: management of the Reserve and conservation of John Turnbull Oval
- Whole school sustainability team (parents, environmental experts, students, teachers, office staff) implementing waste reduction
- audit with Southern Waste Strategy Authority and goals established

Lansdowne Crescent Primary

pamela.balon@education.tas.gov.au &

peter.marmion@education.tas.gov.au

- whole staff professional learning
- Innovative school marketing team to highlight new sustainability initiatives through interactive presentations at assemblies
- whole school focus on developing kitchen gardens
- parents surveyed - over 60 families registered support and donating time/help to establish the garden
- very strong community support and developing new networks

Ogilvie High School

heather.omant@education.tas.gov.au

- Tasmania *Together* competition winner Secondary Category
- Presenting on Tasmania *Together* Goal 11: Built and Natural Heritage that is valued and protected
- used the Science curriculum to build students understanding of sustainability
- whole school team looking at ensuring new redevelopment is environmentally sustainable
- students presenting AUSSI showcase at the Tasmanian Youth Conference
- through biodiversity focus - and word spreading about Ogilvie's involvement in AuSSI -new intergenerational networks being established - between Ogilvie students, the Understorey Network and residents at Mary Ogilvy Home - focus on plant propagation

Rosetta High School Lead teachers:

chris.deeley@education.tas.gov.au

spencer.woolley@education.tas.gov.au

- established 'green teams'
- built into the curriculum and student /teacher timetable
- Biodiversity focus
- establishment of kitchen gardens
- promoting community involvement - Glenorchy Garden Club
- Sponsorship from the Tasmania Together to participate in the Tasmanian Youth Conference Australian Maritime College Competition Winner:
- Rosetta High School presenting a power company board meeting

Modern Languages Teachers Association of Tasmania State Conference

The Modern Languages Teachers Association of Tasmania State Conference was held on the 8- 9 August in Hobart. One of the features of the conference was the high quality of professional learning offered by Tasmanian languages teachers.

A highlight of the conference was the plenary session, *Language-literacy connections in the primary classroom*. Teachers demonstrated how their languages program supports their school literacy plan and improves student literacy through explicit teaching strategies.

A panel of teachers, Liz Clemons, Erminia Sorella and Vicki Fischmann, described the literacy connections they have made and how they have enhanced students' learning. Sally Turner chaired the panel and presented an overview of the projects that are underway in languages programs around the state.

The teachers showed a very deep knowledge and understanding of literacy as well as their specialist language. It was apparent that their success has been built upon a whole school approach and close partnerships between the languages teachers, class teachers and literacy support people.

Progress from the languages-literacy projects will be shared in the literacy expo in October.

For more information contact sue.tolbert@education.tas.gov.au

Call to Action: Asia literacy for every young Australian

The August edition of the Asia Education Foundation newsletter highlights the importance of young people becoming 'Asia literate'. Asia literacy for every young Australian has been agreed to by 24 national organisations representing parents, teachers, principals and leadership organisations. The Call to Action outlines the key actions to be taken by national organisations to achieve Asia literacy, including education systems/jurisdictions, parents, Deans of education, teachers and principals and school leaders. For more information visit

http://www.asiaeducation.edu.au/index_flash.htm under 'What's new?'



Extensive, free professional learning resources and units of work with an Asia focus across the curriculum can also be accessed from this link.

Explore the website for details.

For more information contact jan.kiernan@education.tas.gov.au

For curriculum and professional learning support contact the Manager (Learning)

South

[Judy Travers](#)

Ph 6212 3503

South-east

[Rob Banfield](#)

Ph 6212 3502

North

[Kevin Fagan](#)

Ph 6336 4474

North-west

[Kim Bennett](#)

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The curriculum team is available to work with teachers and school leaders in all learning services. Please feel free to contact them to support you in implementing the Tasmanian curriculum.

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Sharing curriculum ideas and strategies

School improvement