

## Delivering the new Victorian Curriculum

### OVERVIEW

The Victorian Curriculum F-10 sets out the knowledge and skills we expect all students to learn and develop through their schooling. Together with the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework, it specifies the skills children and young people need for success in work and life: literacy, numeracy, scientific knowledge and skills, resilience, respectful relationships, the use of digital technologies and the capacity for critical and creative thinking and expression.

The Victorian Government has invested \$21.6 million over three years to improve the teaching and school leadership capabilities needed to effectively implement the new Victorian Curriculum F-10. This project will:

- Support school leadership teams to access and effectively use whole-school curriculum planning resources available via the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority's (VCAA) website and the dedicated Curriculum Planning portal.
- Select, train and deploy Specialist Teachers across Victoria to deliver professional learning in the priority areas.
- Develop and share high quality sample teaching and learning programs in the priority areas demonstrating the essential elements of curriculum planning to optimise the implementation of the new curriculum and improve student outcomes.

The Specialist Teachers work in partnership with schools and networks to deliver professional learning across the following areas:

- Critical and creative thinking
- Digital coding (technologies)
- Ethical capability
  - Health education and personal and social capability, including respectful relationships
- Literacy in the early years (F-2)
- Music
- STEM - science, technology, engineering and maths

Schools can elect to access one or more areas according to their needs and focus.

#### Theory of change – Victorian Curriculum

**If** we develop a relevant, accessible and well-designed curriculum, and support schools and teachers with resources, training and time to plan and implement curriculum changes in the classroom

**then** we will enable schools to deliver more effective teaching and learning programs across the whole curriculum

**so that** we improve the learning outcomes of students across a range of priority areas and support Victorian students to acquire and apply the knowledge, skills and understandings that they require to thrive in life and work.

### EVIDENCE BASE

Marzano, R.J. (2003). *What works in schools: Translating research into action*.

Defined as a combination of opportunity to learn and time to learn; a guaranteed and viable curriculum is the school level factor that has the most impact on student achievement.

Marzano, R.J., Waters, T., and McNulty, B.A. (2005). *School Leadership that Works*. Alexandria, VA: ACSD.

Great teachers do not rely just on textbooks or standard materials, but can use the curriculum to create teaching and learning programs that meet the needs of the students, based on their knowledge of the subject.

### KEY LINKS

For further information on the Victorian Curriculum, see:

- [The Victorian Curriculum F – 10](#)
- [Education State student vox pops](#)
- [Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework](#)

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### How do schools access the Specialist Teachers?

Schools access the support of Specialist Teachers by registering for professional learning sessions listed on the VCAA's Victorian Curriculum F-10 professional learning webpage at: [Victorian Curriculum Professional Learning](#).

Teachers can choose to participate in face-to-face professional learning workshops and/or online sessions.

Networks and clusters of schools can request the VCAA to provide a Specialist Teacher to support teachers by completing a Request for Support template, which can be accessed at: [Victorian Curriculum Professional Learning](#).

On-demand modules are available on the [VCAA Curriculum Area Advice webpages](#). These are short resources that help teachers to develop their understanding of Victorian Curriculum F-10 Implementation.

The Specialist Teachers are a state-wide resource.

There is not a Specialist Teacher for each region or network area. Professional development sessions are strategically planned to enable teachers in metropolitan and regional areas to access this support.

The professional learning opportunities will continue to be available until December 2018.

### How can we ensure that the Victorian Curriculum roll-out is integrated with school planning?

Victorian Curriculum F-10 implementation support is integrated with curriculum planning:

- Principals and school leaders were comprehensively briefed during Semester 1 2016 about the Victorian Curriculum F-10.
- Victorian Government schools have received all three tranches of funding to facilitate curriculum planning based on the Victorian Curriculum F-10, and funding to support teacher participation in targeted professional learning.
- Victorian Government schools identify the curriculum priority areas for which they seek support – identification of these areas will flow from and be consistent with school planning processes.
- Teachers may participate in targeted professional learning, facilitated by the Specialist Teachers, for the areas that their schools have designated as a priority.

## PROGRESS TO DATE

First cohort of Specialist Teachers commenced	Feb 2016
Curriculum Leadership Program (CLP) delivered to every principal or designated curriculum leader of all government schools	Feb – May 2016
Victorian Curriculum F-10 implementation survey of school priority needs undertaken	Jul 2016
First tranche of funding to support curriculum planning time and teacher release	Jul 2016
First cohort of Specialist Teachers commenced planning support to schools in the targeted priority areas	Oct 2016
Principals drive new curriculum planning including school-based curriculum and assessment plans	Mar – Dec 2016
Second cohort of Specialist Teachers selected	Dec 2016
All schools implement teaching and learning programs based on the new Victorian Curriculum F-10	Jan 2017
Delivery of Specialist Teacher facilitated professional learning for teachers commenced	May 2017
Specialist Teachers deliver professional learning sessions for teachers state-wide	May 2017 – Dec 2018
Second tranche of funding to support curriculum planning time and teacher release	Jun 2017
Third and final cohort of Specialist Teachers selected	Sep 2017

40 percent of Victorian government schools have accessed Specialist Teacher support Dec 2017

Third and final tranche of funding to support curriculum planning time and teacher release Jun 2018

#### **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND MILESTONES**

17 area-based conferences will be organised to prepare teachers for the 2019 teaching Term 4, 2018

50-60 percent of Victorian government schools have accessed Specialist Teacher support Dec 2018