

## Implementing a Curriculum

Under the *Australian Education Act 2013* (Cth.), schools are required to implement either:

- The Australian Curriculum

OR

- another curriculum approved by ACARA and listed on its Recognition Register, such as:
  - International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (PYP)
  - International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (MYP)
  - Australian Steiner Curriculum Framework
  - Montessori National Curriculum Framework.
- AusVELS is the Australian Curriculum Framework mandated for use in government and Catholic schools in Victoria. The content and achievement standards of the Australian Curriculum are embedded in AusVELS. Independent schools can choose to use this framework. It is not mandated.

The discussion/reflection questions below should assist schools with this implementation.

- Does your curriculum incorporate the content descriptions and achievement standards of the Australian Curriculum F – 10 in English, mathematics, history and science?
- Is your school preparing to implement the rest of the Australian Curriculum from 2015?
- Does your school have a whole-school curriculum overview, and a whole-school curriculum plan?
- Does your curriculum reflect appropriate planning to cater for student diversity?
- How does the school's planning documentation address and describe the skills and knowledge needed to meet the Achievement Standards within the Australian Curriculum, or equivalent?
- Does the planning documentation allow for, or encourage, reflection by both the student and teacher, thus allowing for flexibility and adaptability of the delivered curriculum?

### Considerations

- What is your school's current assessment schedule?
- How comfortable are staff in reporting against a Standard?
- How consistent is their assessment practice and allocation of grades?
- What is the purpose of collecting student achievement data?
- Which staff have access to the student achievement data?
- What protected time is given for staff to moderate and disseminate student achievement data?
- How does student achievement data drive a differentiated curriculum?
- How does the school support students who are 'at' or 'below' benchmark?
- How does the school support students who show proficiency?

For further information about the Australian Curriculum, visit the [ACARA website](#), or access the [Australian Curriculum](#).