

Hi, I'm Hilary, and I'm on the ACARA team, reviewing the Australian Curriculum - Languages.

The overall aim of the review is to improve the Australian Curriculum, Languages, from Foundation to Year 10 by refining, realigning and decluttering the content of the curriculum. In particular, we're working to refine and reduce the amount of content and duplication where we can. We are also focused on improving the quality of the content descriptions and achievement standards.

We want the Australian Curriculum, Languages, to be clear about what is most important for students to learn and therefore what teachers have to teach.

We looked at the latest research, key reports and international curriculum developments and talked to academics and national and state professional associations.

In particular, we reviewed how other countries and education systems approached Languages and looked at international evidence such as the OECD TALIS report and the Council of Europe's Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, teaching, assessment.

KIRSTY: We also heard from teachers who shared their experiences about implementing the Australian Curriculum, Languages.

We've established two new Languages reference groups, one comprising teachers and the other made up of curriculum officers from across Australia. These reference groups have helped guide and inform the review.

We also had a separate reference group with primary-school expertise. They've been able to give feedback on the manageability of the curriculum, looking across all the learning areas at specific year levels or bands.

HILARY: We identified some key areas where the Languages curriculum could be improved.

Better alignment among Languages, while recognising individual differences of each curriculum.

Greater clarity of content descriptions.

Reduction in duplication and overlap of content.

Improved quality and clarity of Achievement Standards.

And clearer alignment among curriculum elements, strands, sub-strands, content descriptions and achievement standards.

And, so, we've proposed the following revisions to the Languages curriculum.

Reduced and refined sub-strands.

Reduced some of the detail that clutters content descriptions and moved this into elaborations.

Improved the coherence of content and aligned the cognitive demand across elements of the curriculum.

Improved the alignment of Achievement Standards with content descriptions.

Refined content elaborations.

And developed a Languages guide for each of the Languages curriculum to assist teachers with a suggested developmental progression of grammar, contexts and processes.

KIRSTY: We've created a What's Changed and Why document. This document gives you more details about all the revisions we have proposed for the Languages curriculum. Take the time to have a look at this document.

HILARY: So, now, we're looking to hear from you. This is a simple three-step process - read the consultation curriculum, familiarise yourself with the survey, and, finally, complete the survey.

It's important we hear your views. We want to hear all your feedback, positive and negative. Your responses will help shape an Australian curriculum for the next generation of children.

To give your feedback, simply complete the survey.

Thank you.