

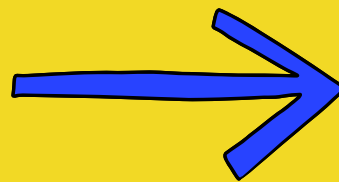


# PARENTS CARERS

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What you need to know about  
curriculum reform



# WHY DID WE HAVE A REVIEW OF THE NSW CURRICULUM?



The NSW Government announced the NSW Curriculum Review in 2018 – the first comprehensive review of the NSW primary and secondary curriculum since 1989. The aim is to update and rework the NSW curriculum so that students can continue to contribute to Australian society in the 21st century.

## **Did parents and carers have a say in the review?**

Yes. In 2018 and 2019, parents and carers took part in the review through consultation. Input from parents and carers helped to form the final recommendations of the review.

# WHAT IS CURRICULUM REFORM?

The NSW Curriculum Reform aims to strengthen and streamline what is taught in schools. The curriculum reform is an opportunity to engage and re energise what we teach and how we teach it. It focuses on making clear what is essential in the curriculum to give more time for deep learning, establish stronger foundations in English and mathematics, and provide stronger links between HSC subjects and career pathways.



# **NEW ENGLISH AND MATHEMATICS K-2 SYLLABUSES**

The new curriculum will give students more time to focus on key learning areas so that they can acquire a deeper understanding of central concepts.

It will ensure students develop strong foundations for learning, life and work in a complex and fast-changing world.



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# OVERVIEW OF new K-2 SYLLABUSES

The new syllabuses emphasise key concepts, identify essential knowledge and skills, and include new outcomes to clearly show what is essential. They remove ambiguity for all users.

<b>Clearer</b> Clear and concise language in the outcomes and content help you to understand the learning expectations for building foundational skills in English and Mathematics.	<b>Easy to navigate</b> The new Digital Curriculum means the syllabuses will be easier to access and navigate, so users can find information more efficiently.
<b>Accessible</b> Access content points are provided to indicate content that students with significant intellectual disability may access.	<b>Samples and resources</b> Teaching samples and examples are easy to find and use. Teaching advice is a supporting guide that was refined through engagement and consultation activities with teachers.

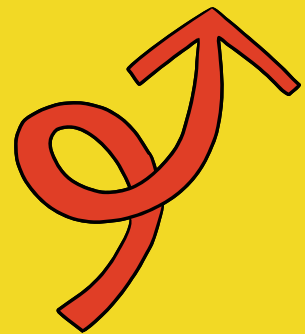
# ENGLISH K-2 DETAILS



- English K–2 shows essential learning as outlined in the research for building foundations in reading and writing.
- The syllabus recognises that for most students, oral language comes before written language. Oral language outcomes and content are inclusive of students whose primary communication is not through speaking and listening.
- Each research-based key to reading has an explicit outcome, including phonics. The teaching advice suggests that teachers should typically provide daily opportunities for students to practise reading, starting with the use of decodable texts.
- Focus on reading ‘fluency’ as a key component of building strong foundations.
- More emphasis on writing and ensuring that students have a clear understanding of how to create a sentence.
- ‘Literature’ is highlighted as essential in the development of core knowledge for subject English. Listening to and using literature can foster an understanding, appreciation and love of reading.
- Content is structured to highlight the parallel connections across oral language, reading and writing.



# MATHeMATICS K-2 DeTAILS

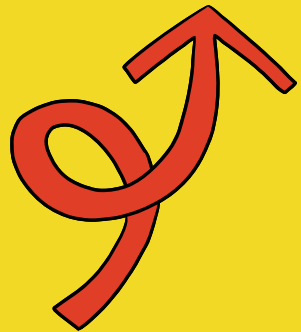


- The new Mathematics syllabus clearly shows essential learning and supports students to make connections across concepts as outlined in the research for building foundations in Mathematics.
- There is a focus on developing reasoning skills to support a deeper understanding.
- Content is structured to highlight the parallel connections across Number and Algebra, Measurement and Space, and Statistics and Probability, underpinned by the latest research.
- Teaching advice for Mathematics includes examples to support the development of language and vocabulary. This will be particularly helpful for early-career teachers. Vocabulary knowledge influences the development of reading, writing, oral language and Mathematics skills.
- The new syllabus affirms the strong evidence base of outcomes and content, with an increased emphasis on place value.





# HOW DOES THE new DIGITAL CURRICULUM PLATFORM HELP?



- All syllabuses of the NSW Curriculum Reform will be released on a new Digital Curriculum platform that will help you to access clear information on the skills and knowledge associated with each key learning area.

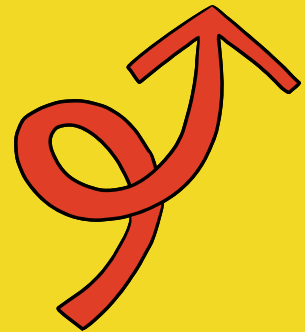
It will include easy links to:

- examples and teaching advice
- support materials
- resources
- other syllabuses.

- The Digital Curriculum means the syllabuses can make connections between subjects and across years.
- The Digital Curriculum will be more accessible. Features will be further developed and added. NESA is encouraging feedback to improve functionality and further refine the Digital Curriculum platform so that it provides the best outcomes for all students and teachers.



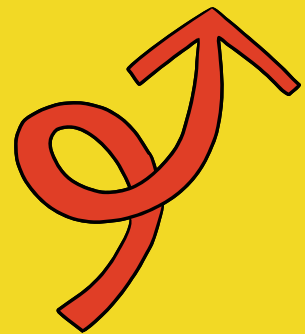
# WHEN WILL new SYLLABUSES BE TAUGHT?



- The new English and Mathematics K–2 syllabuses will be taught in all NSW primary schools starting this year.
- The new English and Mathematics 3–6 syllabuses will be taught in all NSW primary schools from 2024.



# WHAT DOES 'BUILDING STRONG FOUNDATIONS' FOR LEARNING MEAN IN THE EARLY YEARS (K-2)?



- The English and Mathematics K–2 syllabuses are the first new syllabuses of the K–12 NSW Curriculum Reform. They are essential to establish foundations for future learning success, particularly the development of oral language, reading and writing skills, and mathematical knowledge and skills.
- Years K–2 are sometimes referred to as 'the early years of school'.

