

Transitioning from Australian Curriculum Version 7.5 to the Australian Curriculum Version 8.0

Frequently Asked Questions

October 2015

1. Why is there a new version of the *Australian Curriculum*?

In response to recommendations arising from the Australian Government's 2014 Review, ACARA has enhanced the *Australian Curriculum* to improve its manageability, simplify its presentation, and strengthen the focus on literacy.

For further information, please see the Factsheet on the ACARA website at [Improving the Australian Curriculum ACARA Factsheet](#)

2. What is the difference between the *Australian Curriculum* Version 7.5 and Version 8.0?

The key differences between the *Australian Curriculum* Version 7.5 and Version 8.0 are:

- reduced and rebalanced content in English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences, The Arts, Technologies, and Health and Physical Education
- single learning area Achievement Standards for the Humanities and Social Sciences K-7, The Arts K-6, and Technologies K-8.

For further information, please see:

- [Improvements to the F-10 Australian Curriculum: introduction to learning area improvements](#) for a summary of changes
- the [September 2015 Tracked Changes to F-10 Australian Curriculum](#) for detailed information about changes to content and Achievement Standards
- the [Curriculum Version History](#) for an overview of changes to the *Australian Curriculum* since it was first published.

3. What is a single learning area Achievement Standard?

A single learning area Achievement Standard consolidates subject-specific Achievement Standards within the learning area. Subject-specific Achievement Standards will also be published on the *Australian Curriculum* website.

4. Will the *Australian Curriculum* Version 7.5 still be available?

Version 7.5 of the *Australian Curriculum* will continue to be available online until December 2016.

5. Will the *Australian Curriculum* Version 8.0 feature the same functionality as Version 7.5?

The *Australian Curriculum* Version 8.0 will maintain the same functionality as version 7.5. In December 2015, the enhanced Version 8.1 will be uploaded to the *Australian Curriculum* website.

6. Which version of the *Australian Curriculum* will ACT schools use in 2016?

For the rest of 2015, ACT schools may use the *Australian Curriculum* Version 7.5. Schools will transition to full implementation of Version 8.0 by December 2016.

The *Australian Curriculum* Version 7.5 will be available during 2016 for cross-referencing changes to content and Achievement Standards. This transition phase will allow schools to align planning, assessment and reporting practices.

7. Will the transition to the *Australian Curriculum* Version 8.0 impact the *Australian Curriculum Implementation Schedule for ACT Schools*?

The *Australian Curriculum Implementation Schedule for ACT Schools* has been adjusted to accommodate changes to the *Australian Curriculum*. The updated schedule includes an additional year of familiarisation and engagement with Economics and Business, Civics and Citizenship, and Technologies.

The *Australian Curriculum Implementation Schedule for ACT Schools* 2016 can be found at: http://www.det.act.gov.au/teaching_and_learning/curriculum_programs