



Our Ref: 2023/61827

To The Principal
All Western Australian Schools

Dear Principal

As Term 4 gets underway, I would like to take this opportunity to provide an update on the work of the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (the Authority).

Adopting and Adapting the Australian Curriculum version 9 in the *Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline*

We are continuing our work to adopt and adapt the Australian Curriculum Version 9 within the *Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline*. The Western Australian curriculum for the English and Health and Physical Education learning areas will be available for familiarisation in 2024 and implementation in 2025. Other learning areas will be starting consultation in 2024. Details of the consultations will be communicated to schools early in 2024.

ACARA NAPLAN 2023 survey

As you know, NAPLAN moved from May to March this year, and changes were made to reporting to provide simpler, clearer, and more meaningful results. ACARA is keen to hear from principals and teachers, as well as parents and carers, on these changes.

You can provide your feedback at the link to the survey here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NRTZCHN>

We ask that you share the survey to your networks to encourage participation. The survey will be open until early December 2023.

ATAR course examinations

The ATAR course examinations are a key moment for many students. Students completing practical examinations through portfolios and productions submitted their work in September. The practical (performance and oral) examinations for ATAR courses began on 23 September and ended on 22 October. The ATAR course written examinations begin on Monday, 30 October and run through until Friday, 17 November.

I would like to acknowledge teachers and school communities for the care they have taken in preparing students for the examinations and the support they provide throughout the examination period. I also thank the hundreds of teachers who are involved in the marking process. Teacher involvement is central to the success and integrity of the examinations process. To all students in secondary schools enrolled in ATAR courses, I wish them all the best in their examinations.

Executive Director – School Curriculum and Standards

I am pleased to congratulate Juanita Healy on her appointment as Executive Director – School Curriculum and Standards.

Juanita brings a wealth of curriculum and assessment experience, across Kindergarten to Year 12, to the role and a student-centred focus on all aspects of her work. After joining the staff of the School Curriculum and Standards Authority in 2013 as Director – Policy, Planning and Examination Services, Juanita became Executive Director – Curriculum, Assessment and Strategic Policy (renamed as Assistant Executive Director following Machinery of Government changes) with periods of acting as Executive Director – School Curriculum and Standards. Juanita has capably held the position for much of this year while Allan Blagaich was on leave.

Juanita steps into the role at a time of change as we work towards adopting and adapting the Australian Curriculum version 9 in the *Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline*, the refreshment of the Western Australian Certificate of Education, ongoing senior secondary syllabus review and the expansion of the Authority's offshore international education program. In addition, she is currently a board member of the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority, the WA representative on the National Online Steering Committee (NAPLAN) and the National Chair of the Australasian Curriculum, Assessment and Certification Authorities (ACACA) VET committee.

I am sure you will join me and other members of the Board in congratulating Juanita. I look forward to continuing to work with her at this exciting and important time for education in Western Australia.

Yours sincerely



**PAULINE WHITE
CHAIR
SCHOOL CURRICULUM AND STANDARDS AUTHORITY**

23 October 2023