



Our Ref: CS/0267

Dear Principal

This letter updating the letter sent via email to schools on 3 May, provides information about teacher jury verdicts for the new courses; codes for subjects and courses to be offered in 2008 and English examination arrangements for 2007.

The Curriculum Council will defer the introduction of 22 of 40 of its new senior school courses following deliberations by independent teacher juries. Fifteen other courses will proceed as planned in 2008 and will incorporate the adjustments and further support requirements recommended by the juries.

A jury decision is pending on the Visual Arts course and schools will be notified of the verdict when the Council is advised.

Dr Gillgren, the independent consultant from the Department of Premier and Cabinet gave the Council a preliminary briefing on the verdicts reached so far. She said that final jury reports, including recommended improvements or changes, would be provided to the Council for a special meeting on 23 May. Copies of the report from each jury, together with public submissions, will be available on the Council's website after this meeting.

The Council considered the preliminary report and elected to act on the "verdicts" immediately by adopting the initial recommendations and announcing which courses would proceed in 2008 and which courses would be deferred.

**COURSES PROCEEDING IN 2008,
WITH AMENDMENTS**

Business Management & Enterprise
Career & Enterprise
Chinese
Computer Science
Dance
Design
Drama
Health Studies
Italian
Marine & Maritime Technology
Materials Design & Technology
Outdoor Education
Philosophy & Ethics
Plant Production Systems
Psychology

COURSES DEFERRED TO 2009

Accounting and Finance
Animal Production Systems
Automotive Engineering & Technology

Biological Sciences
Building & Construction
Chemistry
Children, Family & the Community
Economics
Food Science & Technology
French
Geography
German
History: Ancient & Modern
Human Biological Science
Indonesian
Japanese
Integrated Science
Literature
Music
Physics
Politics & Law
Religion & Life

PENDING

Visual Arts

Juries were not held for *Aboriginal Languages of WA* and *Aboriginal and Intercultural Studies* in recognition of the cultural sensitivity relating to the processes used and responses received during consultation with Elders, other community members and Aboriginal groups at state and national levels. There was also an insufficient number of teachers in schools, with expertise in Aboriginal languages and culture, to be jurors. Schools which decide to offer one or both of these courses in 2008 are encouraged to contact Aileen Hawkes on 9273 6306.

Tertiary entrance examination (TEE) and wholly school assessed (WSA) subjects in all of the areas of study covered by the deferred new courses will continue until the new courses are introduced.

Courses will be adjusted to reflect jury recommendations and presented to teachers at the professional development day on 1 June 2007. There will also be consultation sessions on 1 June for some of the courses deferred until 2009. Schools will be advised shortly about professional development and timelines.

I believe the decision to announce jury verdicts now will provide greater certainty to schools as they plan for 2008. It will also allow Council to provide extra support for those courses that will proceed.

I hope the decision will help restore teacher and community confidence in the senior school reform by showing that Council is keen to listen and respond to teachers' concerns and advice.

In June, juries will consider the two new mathematics courses to determine whether they are ready for implementation in 2009. Juries will also be convened in August to consider the eight courses already running and to seek feedback from teachers on what additional support, if any, is needed.

Course/subject codes

Course and subject code offerings for 2008 are attached. An update will be provided on 24 May on the Curriculum Council website following Council's consideration of final jury reports at its meeting on 23 May.

English examination 2007

Information for English teachers about English examination arrangements for 2007 is attached. It would be appreciated if you could circulate this information to your English teachers as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely



**DAVID WOOD
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**