

Monday 13 November 2006
Memorandum to schools: Update

This update is to remind principals, other school administrators and teachers about implementation arrangements for the new WA Certificate of Education in 2007 and 2008.

NEW COURSES

Courses being implemented in 2007

New courses being implemented in Year 11 next year include *Applied Information Technology, Earth and Environmental Science, English as an Additional Language/Dialect; and Physical Education Studies*.

In 2007, schools may choose to offer units 1A and 1B of the remaining phase two courses: *Accounting & Finance; Biological Sciences; Chemistry; Computer Science; Drama; Geography; History: Ancient & Modern; Human Biological Science; Music; Physics; Politics & Law; Literature; and Visual Arts*.

Aviation will continue in Year 11 and 12. *English, Engineering Studies and Media Production and Analysis* will be implemented in Year 11 and 12.

Courses being implemented in Year 11 in 2008 and Year 12 in 2009

The 13 refined TEE-aligned phase two courses will be implemented fully in Year 11 in 2008. The new courses include *Accounting & Finance; Biological Sciences; Chemistry; Computer Science; Drama; Geography; History: Ancient & Modern; Human Biological Sciences; Music; Physics; Politics & Law; Literature; and Visual Arts*. The refined courses will be accredited at the November and December Curriculum Council meetings. Sample WACE examinations will also be available. The first WACE examinations for these courses will be held in November 2009. Feedback from schools has informed the refinement of courses and sample exams. Phase three courses, which have also undergone refinement, will be implemented in 2008: *Aboriginal and Intercultural Studies; Agriculture (two courses); Australian Indigenous Languages; Automotive Engineering and Technology; Building and Construction; Business Management and Enterprise; Career and Enterprise; Children, Family and the Community; Dance; Economics; Food, Science and Technology; Health Studies; Integrated Science; LOTE: Second Language; Marine and Maritime Technology; Materials Design and Technology; Mathematics; Philosophy and Ethics; Psychology; Recreational and Environmental Studies; Religion and Life; and Visual Communication Design*.

Consultation on mathematics courses

The consultation drafts for the proposed two new mathematics courses are now on the website at <http://newwace.curriculum.wa.edu.au/pages/teachers.surveys.asp> and copies will be sent to schools tomorrow. Mathematics teachers, along with other interested parties, are asked to provide feedback on the response form provided by 1 December 2006. Several forums have provided valuable feedback which informed the development and initial refinement of draft documents.

Focused consultation on selected courses

A series of teacher consultation meetings have been held for courses that have undergone substantial changes since June. In addition, on-line surveys are available to provide feedback on the following courses: Accounting and Finance, Agriculture, Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Computer Science, Dance, Drama, Economics, Geography, Integrated Science, History: Ancient and Modern, Health, Human Biological Science, Literature, Marine and Maritime Technology, Music, Physics, Politics and Law, Visual Arts, Visual Communication Design and can be located at <http://newwace.curriculum.wa.edu.au/pages/teachers.surveys.asp>. Teachers are encouraged to access courses they may be teaching in 2008 and provide feedback by 20 November 2006 on particular aspects of the course that have undergone significant modification.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment arrangements for 2007

New courses: *Aviation; English; Engineering Studies; Media Production and Analysis; English as an Additional Language/Dialect; Earth and Environmental Science; Applied Information Technology; and Physical Education Studies*.

Three assessment approaches have been endorsed by the Curriculum Council for use in 2007 only. For each approach, the unit level and band should be determined with reference to the scales of achievement. The direct, indirect and composite models are outlined in detail in the [memorandum to schools on 20 September](#), which is available on the council's WACE website. Schools must continue to ensure internal comparability of school based assessments.

TEE subjects aligned to Phase Two courses: *Accounting & Finance; Biological Sciences; Chemistry; Computer Science; Drama; Geography; History: Ancient & Modern; Human Biological Sciences; Music; Physics; Politics & Law; Literature; and Visual Arts*

Existing TEE subjects aligned to these phase two courses will continue for Year 11 in 2007 (coded as 2A and 2B units) and Year 12 in 2008 (coded as 3A and 3B units). For these courses, teachers will continue to use the existing syllabus and assessment processes. Schools that choose to offer units 1A and 1B of these phase two courses in 2007 should use assessment procedures outlined in the [memorandum to schools on 20 September](#). This includes VET versions.

TEE subjects, WSA subjects & VET: Teachers will continue to use current processes for assessment and reporting student achievement to the Curriculum Council in TEE and WSA subjects. Current arrangements for VET stand-alone will continue.

Assessment arrangements for 2008 and beyond

The Curriculum Council is finalising assessment arrangements to operate from 2008 and beyond. Schools will be notified of these arrangements in February 2007.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR 2007

The 2007 professional development plan will be sent to schools at the end of November. Attached with this memorandum are arrangements for the awareness sessions. This information is also on the website http://newwace.curriculum.wa.edu.au/pages/teachers_professional_plan.asp

ASSESSMENT SEMINARS AND CONSENSUS MEETINGS FOR NEW COURSES FOR 2007

Half day assessment seminars for *Aviation, Engineering Studies, English and Media Production and Analysis* will be held in 2007. Full day assessment seminars will be held for *Applied Information Technology, Earth and Environmental Science, English as an Additional Language/Dialect; and Physical Education Studies*. Consensus moderation meetings will be conducted for these courses in second semester 2007.

Additional assessment seminars and consensus meetings will be held for units 1A and 1B in the 13 TEE-aligned phase two courses. Details of these meetings will be sent to schools in 2007.

WACE REQUIREMENTS

The New WACE requirements have been finalised. These are available on the website at http://newwace.curriculum.wa.edu.au/pages/about_requirements.asp

COMMUNITY SERVICE

To meet WACE requirements from 2009, students are required to complete 20 hours of community service. Students in Year 10 can begin to accumulate hours from 2007. The council will provide community service guidelines, a logbook template and will certify the completion of community service. More information about [WACE requirements](#) is available on the council's website.

COUNCIL-ENDORSED PROGRAMS

Details about council-endorsed programs can be located at http://newwace.curriculum.wa.edu.au/pages/teachers_courses_councilunits.asp

DATA TRANSFER FROM SCHOOLS

It is important that all schools meet the timelines for Semester 2 data transfer to ensure the certification of students. I am committed to ensuring much smoother data transfer processes from schools. Please email me directly at david.wood@curriculum.wa.edu.au if your school is experiencing data transfer issues.

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