

MEDIA STATEMENT

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Work studies curriculum released: helping young people navigate the world of work

Today ACARA has released the Australian Curriculum: Work Studies – a world-class, future-oriented curriculum for students in Years 9–10. Work studies is a stand-alone curriculum and has been designed as an elective subject.

The skills needed to prosper in our knowledge-focused world differ from those required in the past. Young people need different personal and interpersonal skills, wide-ranging global awareness and the flexibility to manage rapid change.

The work studies curriculum is a response to key work-related issues young people are facing today and in the future. It provides young people with the essential knowledge, understanding and skills for participation in the rapidly changing world of work, aiming to help them plan and shape their future and make a contribution to the wider community.

The curriculum aims to ensure that students in Years 9 and 10 develop:

- knowledge of the world of work and importance of lifelong learning
- capacities to manage careers, change and transitions in an uncertain and changing future
- literacy, numeracy, ICT and interpersonal skills to work, interact and communicate successfully with others in diverse contexts, using appropriate behaviours and protocols
- skills and resilience to meet the demands of present and future learning and work.

Work studies is designed for all students, whether they follow a vocational or academic path.

ACARA CEO Robert Randall says, 'In this new curriculum, students learn to understand what work is, how and why it is changing, and what this means for their future in working for others or themselves.

'Through a mix of applied learning and work exposure, students gain a better understanding of work and places of work.'

The work studies curriculum is now available for use, but is awaiting endorsement from the Education Council.

See the work studies curriculum at the [Australian Curriculum website](#).

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