



PRIMARY MATTERS

ISSUE # 5 APRIL 2015

Welcome to the first edition of Primary Matters for 2015. This newsletter provides more information about ACARA's projects that will assist primary schools across Australia.

RESPONDING TO THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT'S AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM REVIEW

As a result of the review of the Australian Curriculum in 2014, four curriculum-related themes were identified by the federal government:

- resolving the overcrowded curriculum
- improving parental engagement around the curriculum
- improving accessibility for all students
- rebalancing the curriculum.

Following 5 March 2015 meeting of education ministers, ACARA began work on actions in response to the four themes. One of the first steps was a meeting, on 12–13 March 2015, of 16 practising primary teachers from around the country. These teachers worked with ACARA officers to provide input and feedback about options for reducing, redesigning and rebalancing the curriculum for primary schools. Work in response to the feedback from the workshop has occurred as curriculum writers drafted refinements to each of the learning areas for consultation with state and territory authorities and key stakeholders. Refinements to the Australian Curriculum will be presented to the ACARA Board in June and, if approved, forwarded to education ministers for their consideration.

ACARA is undertaking consultation with experts and key stakeholders during April–May 2015 to develop options to improve accessibility to the curriculum, particularly for students with disability. The options will be considered by education ministers later in 2015. ACARA will also prepare materials for parents about the Australian Curriculum for the 2016 school year.

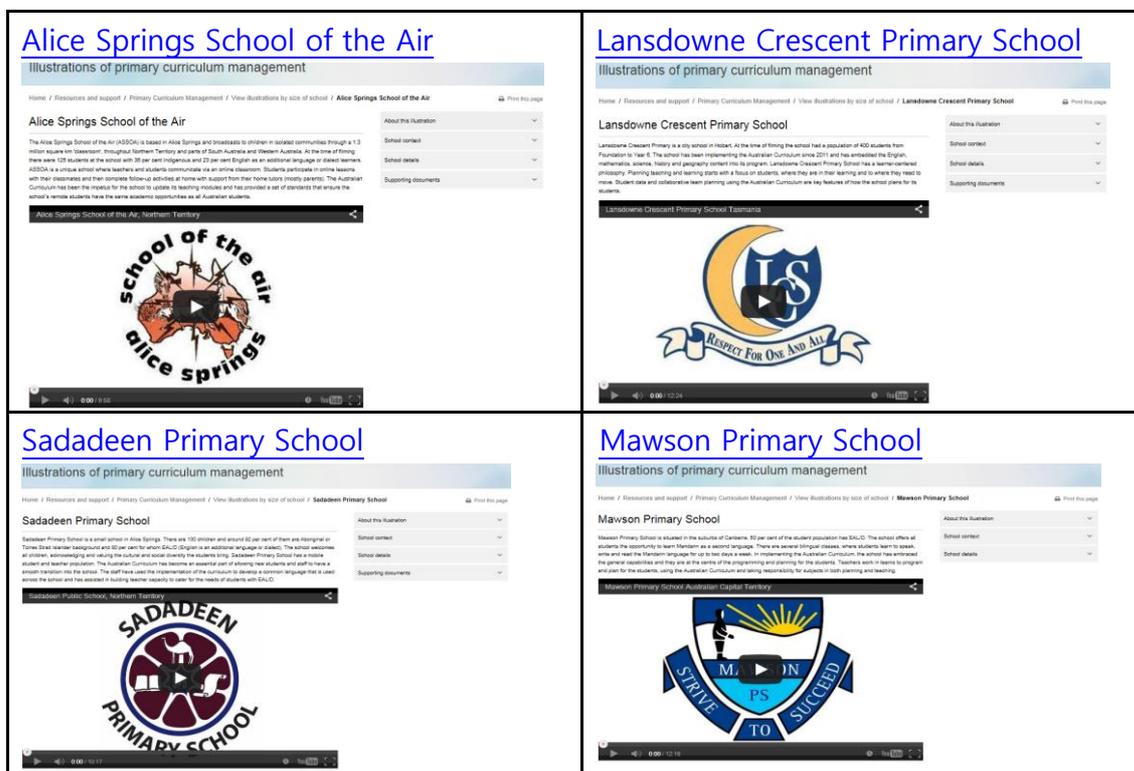


Practising primary teachers workshop – ACARA March 2015

ILLUSTRATIONS OF PRIMARY CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT

The illustrations of primary curriculum management are now available on the [Australian Curriculum website](https://www.acara.edu.au/primary-curriculum-management). In 2014 over 20 schools from around Australia shared the journeys they had taken in managing the Australian Curriculum in their schools. Viewing the videos will give leadership teams the opportunity to consider the approaches taken by different schools. The schools, which are representative of government, Catholic and independent sectors, are drawn from metropolitan, rural and remote areas, and range in size from 130 to over 700 students.

Each school describes the steps they are undertaking to manage the Australian Curriculum. Planning proformas, timetables or other documents that provide insight into the processes they are following are also included with the videos. See below some of the schools featured on the website:



Please pass our newsletter on to your primary colleagues. The Primary Curriculum team contact details are below and we would welcome any feedback or questions about ACARA's work.

Primary Curriculum team members are happy to discuss our projects. Contact us directly by email:

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