

MEDIA RELEASE

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National Curriculum Board Framing Papers Released for Feedback

Progress towards national curriculum in English, mathematics, science and history took another step forward today with the release of framing papers which propose broad directions for what teachers should teach and young people should learn in the national curriculum from Kindergarten to Year 12 (K–12).

‘We want to hear what the community thinks about the proposed directions of the national curriculum,’ said Professor Barry McGaw, Chair of the National Curriculum Board. ‘We must ensure it has the right level of flexibility and is designed to meet all student and teacher needs.’

‘Once the Board examines all feedback and determines its final recommendations, the writing process for the national curriculum will begin,’ he said.

The framing paper development process follows a series of forums held in October. ‘Since the presentation of initial advice at national forums, the development of the framing papers has been collaborative; guided by individual experts and focus groups, written correspondence, individual responses by academics and teachers and direct communication through the National Curriculum Board website,’ Professor McGaw said.

Professor McGaw praised the efforts of everyone involved in the national curriculum development and thanked those who have provided input to the development of the framing papers.

‘The Board has received a tremendous amount of feedback. It has clarified the content and structure in each of the papers. The consultation process has confirmed the direction we are taking,’ he said.

From June this year, the National Curriculum Board has held a stakeholder forum in every State and Territory of Australia and received feedback from more than 1700 education, union, academic, industry, parents and student representatives. In October, national forums in Melbourne attracted more than 600 people to discuss the development of national curriculum across the four subject areas.

‘The Board is consultative and eager to listen. This is now the next stage in the consultation process and I invite all those interested in school education to read the framing papers and submit feedback,’ Professor McGaw said.

The national curriculum framing papers are available for review and comment on the National Curriculum Board website www.ncb.org.au from Thursday 20 November to 28 February 2009. Feedback may also be submitted to the Board via feedback@ncb.org.au.

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