



Curriculum Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

This year, all K-2 classes across NSW are in the process of implementing a new syllabus for English and mathematics. The English and mathematics K-2 syllabuses are the first new syllabuses of the K-12 NSW Curriculum Reform. They are essential to establish foundations for future learning success, particularly the development of oral language, reading and writing skills, and mathematical knowledge and skills.

At Blaxland Public School, KE, K/1C and 1/2 H have been implementing the new syllabus and will be using this to report to parents starting this semester and moving forward. Included below is a list of focus areas covered in English and maths in K-2. Each focus area is comprehensively covered every year, with knowledge and skills building on previous knowledge to acquire a deeper understanding of concepts.

Next year, in 2024, Years 3-6 English and maths syllabuses will be introduced across NSW and will build upon the strong foundations of learning in the K-2 syllabus.

English K-2

The new K-2 English syllabus is evidence-based and focused heavily on building foundations in reading and writing. The syllabus also recognises that for most students, oral language comes before written language.

The K-2 English syllabus covers 11 focus areas for Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten) and 9 focus areas for Stage 1 (Yr 1 & 2)

- Oral language and Communication – focus on Speaking and listening.
- Vocabulary – focus on learning and using words
- Phonological Awareness (ES1 Only) – orally blends, segments and manipulates words, syllables & phonemes
- Print Conventions (ES1 Only) – Understands features of print and directionality
- Phonic Knowledge – Uses phonic knowledge to decode and encode words when reading and writing.
- Reading Fluency – Reads with appropriate phrasing, intonation, volume, rate & automaticity
- Reading Comprehension – Comprehends and recalls independently read texts
- Creating Written texts – plans, creates and writes related ideas and texts
- Spelling
- Handwriting
- Understanding and responding to Literature

Maths K-2

The new mathematics syllabus clearly shows essential learning and supports students to make connections across concepts as outlined in the research for building foundations in Mathematics. There is a focus on developing reasoning skills to support a deeper understanding.

The syllabus covers 8 focus areas for Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten) and 9 focus areas for Stage 1 (Yr 1 & 2)

- **Representing Whole Numbers** – includes counting, recognising quantities, numerals, creating number patterns and place value.
- **Combining and Separating Quantities** – using multiple strategies to combine (add) and separate (subtract) numbers
- **Forming Groups** – grouping and sharing quantities, multiplication and division, halving and doubling with fractions
- **Geometric Measure** – Position, length
- **Two-Dimensional spatial structure** – Working with 2D shapes, area
- **Three-dimensional spatial structure** – Looking at 3D objects, Volume
- **Non-Spatial Measure** – Mass, time
- **Data** – Collecting and interpreting data
- **Chance** (S1 Only) – Recognising and describing the element of chance in everyday events

For further online Information:

<https://nswcurriculumreform.nesa.nsw.edu.au/home/siteAreaContent/15b6d3f3-d5f5-4d5d-a99d-80f1541246d0>

If you would like further information on the K-2 curriculum, please feel free to contact your child's class teacher or Mrs Wacker at any time.

Kind regards,

Cheryl Wacker

Assistant Principal, Curriculum & Instruction