

Estimates Committee 2012
Questions Taken On Notice

(12/06/2012 to 21/06/2012)

Date: 14/06/2012

Output:

Sub Output:

Subject: Communique sent to Principals

From:Mr Peter Chandler to Dr Chris Burns
Education and Training

Question: **4-3**
Can we have a copy of the communiqué sent to principles in regards to RSCAM

Answer:
Answered On: 14/06/2012

4.3
Tabled Paper 4.1

Answer to Q 4-3



DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory

TABLED DOCUMENTS

Committee: Estimates
Paper No: 4.1 Date: 14/6/12
Submission No: Burns
Signed: J. Keogh

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Dear Colleagues

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I am writing to provide some further clarification around the implementation of the Australian Curriculum following questions that have arisen from meetings between DSPs and principals following the email I sent earlier this week.

Timing of implementation

I believe that Alan Baillie has clarified by way of follow-up email, that the timing of implementation is unchanged – that is, all schools engage in full implementation from Semester 2 2012.

Term 1 will focus on the finalizing of initial support materials and professional development

Term 2 will focus on schools (including staff and parents) engaging with the new curriculum and support materials and tools

Term 3 will be the start of full implementation of Australian Curriculum English and maths in all schools

Term 4 will see schools assess and report using achievement standards

Scope and sequence

In Term 1, CTPoL will finalise our scope and sequence (detailing when content, skills and concepts will be covered each term) The work that has been done by ACARA and Queensland (as an early adopter) will inform this. This scope and sequence will be used as a basis for decisions about when content is introduced in all schools. We want to ensure that mobile kids that move between schools are not exposed to duplication or miss out on important content. Of course, local decisions will also need to take account of student readiness.

Support Materials

Greg Moo and his team will work with CTPoL to have a full range of support materials available to schools including those from ACARA, Education Services Australia, our own CTPoL materials (including RSCAM) and the C2C materials that a NT principal delegation recommended we secure from Queensland (the first large jurisdiction that has developed materials to such a level of detail)



Given I came from Queensland, I was very mindful of ensuring that NT principals would want these materials to complement the existing NT/CTPoL materials that have been developed. Rob Presswell, Marg Fenbury, Jodie Green and Jen Coad made up the delegation who visited Queensland to see firsthand how C2C works and how it might be adapted for the Territory. You might like to talk with Rob, Marg, Jodie and/or Jen as to why they felt strongly that our schools need this additional level of support materials.

It is worth noting that other jurisdictions and ACARA are negotiating with Queensland to access these support materials now that we have moved to a national curriculum. Anything that reduces a duplication of effort but allows us to contextualize to suit our particular circumstances is welcomed.

I believe the first set of C2C materials will be available in electronic form at the end of February. Additional materials will follow shortly afterwards. However, there are print versions available that you can access through CTPoL

Unit Plans

I have managed to get free access to basic Unit plans for every year level in the Queensland materials packages. These align with the Australian Curriculum Scope and Sequence and are available for NTG schools to use and innovate on. Schools also have the option of developing their own plans in discussion with their DSP with the key being alignment to scope and sequence.

Reporting

As you know, the new Australian Curriculum moves away from outcomes-based assessment and reporting to an achievement-standard approach. To facilitate this, we are developing a new reporting tool. This will be done with the input of principals. This new tool will be implemented fully in schools from Semester 2 and will be included as a module in the new school management system that should be available from 2013.

The tool and related processes will be developed during Semester 1. Some schools may wish to use the tool for Semester 1 reporting after consultation with their DSP. Schools would need to meet the threshold criterion of having moved to a standards approach to curriculum delivery.

Other schools should use their existing assessment and reporting processes during Semester 1 but begin preparing for the change that will occur from Semester 2.

As previously advised, Middle Schools with Year 10 students who use Accelerus (Markbook) may continue to do so after adjustments are made to include the new achievement standards.

I hope this clears things up. As always, please talk with your DSPs in the first instance if you have need for further clarification. This is both a challenging and exciting time for everyone in education across Australia.

Yours Sincerely



Gary Barnes

