

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2009-2010**

Outcome 2 - Schools

DEEWR Question No.EW0937_10

Senator Mason provided in writing.

Question

ACARA

How is the work on the national curriculum progressing? (given that the curriculum for the first four key learning areas has to be finalised this year for implementation next year). Will there be any problems with maintaining this timetable? When will we see the final product? Will there be opportunities for further feedback and review? Will the states and territories be ready to implement it next year? Where are we at with the second phase of curriculum work (languages, geography and the arts)?

Answer

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) is progressing work on the Australian Curriculum in accordance with agreed timelines. The draft K-10 Australian Curriculum in the first four learning areas of English, mathematics, science and history is available for public consultation from 1 March to 23 May 2010. These four learning areas will be finalised following consultation and published in the second half of this year in order to commence implementation from 2011.

Initial shape papers for geography, languages and the arts will be available for public consultation in mid 2010 and finalised by the end of this year. Writing and consultation on the draft curriculum will occur in 2011 with publication of the final K-10 Australian Curriculum in these learning areas planned to occur in late 2011.