

Literacy and Numeracy Strategy Implementation

OVERVIEW

The goal of the Literacy and Numeracy Strategy (the Strategy) is to improve literacy and numeracy outcomes for all students, as the foundation for engagement in education and lifelong achievement.

The Strategy supports schools and teachers to assess what every student knows, what they need to learn next, and to match this with high quality, tailored instruction in literacy and numeracy based on the Victorian Curriculum.

The Strategy contains actions for every level of our system, and builds on the Framework for Improving Student Outcomes (FISO) and the broader Education State agenda. Its design is based on local and international evidence of what works to lift educational outcomes, and also incorporates the Victorian school context.

The implementation of the Strategy includes the release of a suite of resources and professional learning for school leaders and teachers, with the aim to support evidence informed teaching practice and to increase the quality and consistency of teaching and learning in schools. These resources and professional learning are of the highest quality and are aligned to the Victorian Curriculum.

In the same way that teaching is differentiated to ensure all students learn and make progress, the support to schools is also differentiated. Comprehensive resources are available to all schools and additional targeted supports are provided for selected schools, based on circumstances and need.

PHASE 2 OF THE STRATEGY

The Literacy and Numeracy Strategy Phase 2, released in June 2018, deepens the focus on both teacher practice and the priority of primary literacy. *Phase 2* extends the reach of the Strategy in response to demand from the sector by designing and developing resources and professional learning for numeracy and secondary schooling. It includes a new section on the important role of parents and carers as partners in learning.

Phase 2 identifies 'Key Actions' that school leaders and central and regional leaders should take to improve student outcomes and contains information about the new resources and professional learning available to teachers, schools and families.

In 2019, all schools will have identified a Literacy and a Numeracy Leader with specific responsibility for leadership of literacy and numeracy whole-school approaches. Schools will have also identified a Key Improvement Strategy in literacy and/or numeracy as part of their annual planning.

In addition, the Middle Years Literacy and Numeracy Support initiative was announced in October 2018 as part of the Strategy. This initiative provides intensive literacy and numeracy teaching support to government secondary students in Years 8 to 10 who are at risk of finishing school without the literacy and numeracy skills they need for future work, education or training. In 2019, all Year 10 students identified in NAPLAN testing to be below National Minimum Standards in Reading or Numeracy will receive direct, targeted support.

Theory of change – Shared Responsibility for Improving Student Outcomes

We have a shared focus that aligns each layer of the system to support the work that teachers do with their students. This includes Central office leaders working with regional staff, who are, in turn, working with school leaders supporting teachers in their daily practice and engaging parents and carers in their child's learning.

We are improving teachers' professional practice in the classroom, while fostering collaboration within and across schools to support excellence in teaching and learning **so that** we can improve literacy and numeracy outcomes across Victoria, for every student, in every classroom, in every government school.

KEY LINKS

For further information on the Strategy and the Middle Years Literacy and Numeracy Support initiative see:

- [Literacy and Numeracy Strategy](#)
- [Victorian Literacy Portal](#)
- [Victorian Numeracy Portal](#)
- [Bastow's Literacy Leader Learning Suite](#)
- [Middle Years Literacy and Numeracy Support initiative](#)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How does the Strategy support secondary schools?

A range of resources and supports are being developed for secondary schools. These include the *Mathematics Teaching Toolkit: Birth–Level 10* and the *Literacy Teaching Toolkit: Levels 7–10*. Workshops for secondary school Literacy Leaders and Numeracy Leaders will also be available from Term 3, 2019 to provide guidance and advice for the integrated use of these new resources. The Middle Years Literacy and Numeracy Support initiative will provide additional teaching support to secondary school students who are at risk of finishing school without the literacy and numeracy skills they need for future work, education and training.

How does the Strategy support numeracy and mathematics?

A suite of resources and supports will be provided to support primary and secondary schools in numeracy. The roll out of the *Mathematics Teaching Toolkit* has commenced and the full Toolkit will be available in Term 2, 2019. The Bastow Institute will also provide professional learning through workshops for primary and secondary school Numeracy Leaders to engage with the new resources.

What support is available to school leaders to help them implement the Strategy?

An updated [School Leaders' Guide](#) was released at the Term 3 Area Principal Forums in 2018. To support schools in their implementation of the Strategy, the updated Guide presents a series of suggested approaches that focus on how school leaders can provide instructional leadership and implement a whole-school approach to curriculum planning, teaching and learning, and monitoring and evaluation. The Guide also identifies resources that provide more specific guidance to support these approaches.

There are so many resources coming out at once – how are schools supposed to use everything at the same time?

A suite of practical, evidence-based resources are being made available to support teachers and to minimise the need for individual schools to find their own resources – giving teachers more time to focus on teaching and learning. There is no expectation that schools will use all resources at once, and schools will be able to choose which resources will best address their needs.

What professional development is available to support schools?

In 2019, The Bastow Institute will continue to deliver the Leading Literacy for Networks Course. Recently trained Master Trainers will support primary school Literacy Leaders in their networks to deliver quality literacy instruction and whole-school literacy approaches. In addition, The Bastow Institute will provide professional learning from Term 3, 2019 for primary and secondary school Numeracy Leaders and secondary school Literacy Leaders to meet the demand for professional development for numeracy and secondary school literacy.

What teaching support do schools receive under the Middle Years Literacy and Numeracy Support initiative?

Schools will have access to two new workforces:

- Literacy Improvement Teachers and Numeracy Improvement Teachers are existing teachers in schools who will be provided time-release to support eligible students in their school, and work with other teachers to improve the literacy and numeracy of all students within their school.
- In some schools, Network Literacy Teachers and Network Numeracy Teachers are a new workforce who will work across a maximum of four schools to provide direct, targeted support to eligible students in collaboration with their regular classroom teachers.

Both of these workforces will receive tailored professional learning in 2019 and beyond to support their work with students.

RESOURCES AND SUPPORTS AVAILABLE NOW

Resources

High Impact Teaching Strategies

Pedagogical Model

Practice Principles for Excellence in Teaching and Learning

Insight Assessment Platform

Reading and Vocabulary Assessment for English as an Additional Language (RVEAL) Years 3 to 10

Annotated student work samples in writing, reading and viewing

Literacy Teaching Toolkit: Birth–Level 6

'Prep Bag' books and literacy and numeracy guidance for parents and carers

At a Glance: Literacy and Numeracy Teaching Resources

Amplify: Empowering students through voice, agency and leadership

Literacy and Numeracy Tips to Help Your Child Every Day: A guide for parents of children aged 0-12

Updated School Leaders' Guide to Improving Literacy and Numeracy Outcomes

Academic vocabulary resource for secondary school teachers

'LD Bites': Learning Difficulties webinars to support literacy learning for students with learning difficulties

(including dyslexia)

Mathematics Curriculum Companion (part of the Mathematics Teaching Toolkit)

Guide to Formative Assessment Rubrics

Enhanced English Online Interview & supporting materials for teachers

Koorie English online teaching resources

Catalogue of school support programs

Professional Learning

Literacy Data, Assessment and Practice course (online)

Bastow Leading Literacy for Networks program

UPCOMING RESOURCES AND SUPPORTS

Mathematics Teaching Toolkit: Birth-Level 10 (full toolkit) Term 3, 2019

Literacy Teaching Toolkit: Levels 7–10 From Term 3, 2019

Resource for secondary schools to lift literacy and numeracy outcomes Term 3, 2019

Workshops for primary and secondary Numeracy Leaders, and secondary Literacy Leaders From Term 3, 2019

Digital Assessment Library From Term 3, 2019

Numeracy teaching resources for teaching students with learning difficulties (including dyscalculia) From Term 3, 2019