



Rephasing Phase 5 of the National Curriculum

Priority 1: Establishing a knowledge-rich curriculum grounded in the science of learning
Priority 2: Implementing consistent modes of monitoring student progress and achievement

4 August 2025

We want to ensure that senior secondary teachers and kaiako have enough time to implement new national curriculum changes for Years 11-13 (Phase 5). Following sector feedback, we are updating expectations for Years 11-13 to create a phased roll-out of senior secondary subjects.

Your feedback has clearly indicated that you would like greater phasing of the introduction of senior secondary learning areas. We've heard from you that this phasing will support quality implementation by giving teachers and kaiako more time to build confidence with the new content, support resource and assessment alignment, and help maintain consistency for students.

Years 0-10 (Phases 1-4)

The final curriculum content for Years 7-10 English and Te Reo Rangatira and Years 9 & 10 mathematics and statistics and Pāngarau will be available in early Term 4, 2025.

The remainder of the Years 0-10 curriculum content will also be available in draft across all learning areas and wāhanga ako in early Term 4, 2025 to invite wider feedback and to inform planning and professional development days ahead of the new school year.

Years 7-10 English and Te Reo Rangatira and Years 9 & 10 mathematics and statistics and Pāngarau are still required to be used from Term 1, 2026. As students in Year 9 will be the first cohort using new qualification assessments aligned to the new curriculum, we encourage schools and kura to prioritise the implementation of the new Year 9 curriculum in 2026.

Years 11-13 (Phase 5)

The Years 11-13 curricula will be available in Term 1, 2026 to invite wider feedback and help build familiarisation and readiness. There will be no formal requirement to use this content until 2028 (for Year 11 content), 2029 (for Year 12 content), and 2030 (for Year 13 content).

Following feedback from English and Maths Associations as well as your representative principal groups, we have decided **to include Years 11-13 English, Maths, Te Reo Rangatira and Pāngarau** in this rephased roll-out. This means that changes to the Year 11-13 curriculum will not be required until 2028, creating more time for quality implementation.

Your feedback is a hugely important part of the development process, and we hope that this rephrase will also allow more time for sector input and revisions to take place.

Have your say

There will be further opportunities for the sector to have a say on the curriculum. In Term 1, 2026, there will be in-class testing of Years 0-10 learning areas and wāhanga ako and wider feedback invited on all Years 0-13 content. We'll have more information for you about this soon.

How you will be supported in using the curriculum

To support the updated curriculum timeline for secondary schools and kura, an implementation package is available to ensure that teachers and kaiako are supported every step of the way.

- Professional learning and development (PLD) for teachers and kaiako of Years 9 & 10 on the new knowledge rich curriculum to support implementation of all learning areas and wāhanga ako
- PLD for curriculum leadership
- Teacher Only Days
- Expanded Curriculum Advisory Service for secondary schools and kura
- Learning packages for Years 9 & 10 teachers and kaiako which include lesson plans, teacher guidance and resources for all learning areas and wāhanga ako
- Subject Association and Kahu Pūtoi funding available to support curriculum roll out

New timeline for the national curriculum

The New Zealand Curriculum		Available		Required		F = Finalised content		
		2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Curriculum framework				F				
		← Terms 1-4 →						
Learning areas								
English	Years 0-6		F					
	Years 7-10			F				
	Year 11				F			
	Year 12				F			
	Year 13				F			
Mathematics and Statistics	Years 0-8		F					
	Years 9-10			F				
	Year 11				F			
	Year 12				F			
	Year 13				F			
All other learning areas <i>(Science, Technology, Health and Physical Education, Learning Languages, The Arts, Social Sciences)</i>	Years 0-10			F				
	Year 11				F			
	Year 12				F			
	Year 13				F			

Available

Required

F = Finalised content

Te Marautanga o Aotearoa		2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Curriculum framework				F				
		— Terms 1-4 —						
Wāhanga ako								
Te Reo Rangatira	Years 0-6		F					
	Years 7-10			F				
	Year 11				F			
	Year 12				F			
	Year 13				F			
Pāngarau	Years 0-8		F					
	Years 9-10			F				
	Year 11				F			
	Year 12				F			
	Year 13				F			
All other wāhanga ako (<i>Te Ao Māori, Pūtaiao, Hangarau, Toi Ihiihi, Waiora, Ngā Reo, Te Reo Pākehā</i>)	Years 0-10				F			
	Year 11				F			
	Year 12				F			
	Year 13				F			