

Phase | Tūārere 5 Curriculum Development: Overview

20 NOVEMBER 2025

We are starting work on **Phase | Tūārere 5 of the New Zealand Curriculum and Te Marautanga o Aotearoa**, which focuses on subjects for **Years 11-13**. This phase builds on Phase | Tūārere 1-4 and ensures a clear knowledge rich curriculum pathway for students through senior secondary schooling and beyond.

What's Staying the Same

- › An aspirational **knowledge-rich** curriculum in which subject knowledge, practices and capabilities are carefully selected and sequenced in a coherent form. This scaffolds foundational knowledge and practices to enable students to develop higher order capabilities and prepares them for a choice of future pathways.
- › The **format** will be consistent with Phase | Tūārere 1-4.
- › Your input is essential, and we are keen to hear feedback that supports the development of a knowledge rich curriculum.

What's Changing

- › We will design a **subject-by-year structure** for Years 11-13.
- › Each subject will include:
 - **Knowledge** - the facts, concepts, principles, and theories to teach
 - **Practices** - the skills, strategies, and applications to teach
 - **Capabilities** - the subject specific competencies such as critical and creative thinking, communication and technical application.

Our Development Process

The process has four stages:

- 1. Design (Scope)**
Create the overall design structure and pathways for Years 11-13, ensuring alignment with Phase | Tūārere 1-4 and clear progression for students.
- 2. Develop (Write)**
Draft detailed subject content, including knowledge, practices, and assessment guidance.
- 3. Approve (Sign-off)**
Consultation on the draft curriculum and formal approval in the first-half of 2026.
- 4. Publish (Communicate)**
Release to the sector for consultation and feedback.

Key Products

- › Design document: Outlines subject scope and pathways.
- › Subject documents: Detailed subject content for each year, similar to Phase | Tūārere 1-4.

How We Will Involve You

We value your input and will involve the sector at key points:

- › Feedback opportunities: We will seek targeted feedback during both the design development phase and the subject development draft.
- › Two groups will support development:
 - A group during the Design phase: Reviews subject descriptions, validates pathways and core knowledge.
 - A group during the Development phase: Tests detailed subject drafts for teachability, and flow of knowledge.
- › Expression of Interest (EOI): These will be coming out shortly for those who want to be involved in development, writing or testing.

Consultation

- › We will consult on the draft subjects for Years 11-13 in 2026.
- › Feedback will inform updates to Phase | Tūārerere 5 and these will be considered alongside any changes to Phase | Tūārerere 4.

We're committed to working with you throughout this process. Your insights will help shape a knowledge-rich curriculum, grounded in the science of learning, that ensures every learner has access to a world leading education, wherever they go to school or kura, and whether they are learning through the New Zealand Curriculum or Te Marautanga o Aotearoa.

The New Zealand Curriculum and Te Marautanga o Aotearoa Phase | Tūārerere 5 (Years 11-13) Development Process

Sector involvement overview

