



Years 0-10 curriculum

Implementation timelines extended

The updated National Curriculum for Years 0-10, to be released as final in mid-2026, has a new timeframe for implementation.

The implementation timeline for Years 0-8 is being further extended to create more time for principals and tumuaki to lead change in schools and kura.

From the beginning of 2027, schools will be required to start using the new Years 0–8 Science, Social Sciences, Pūtaiao, and Pūmanawa Tangata, but they can plan their full implementation over 2027 and 2028.

From the beginning of 2029, schools will be required to start using the rest of the Years 0-8 curriculum, but they can plan their full implementation over 2029 and 2030. These are: Health and Physical Education, The Arts, Technology, Learning Languages, Waiora, Toi Ihiihi, Hangarau, Ngā Reo, Te Reo Pākehā.

Learning Languages and Ngā Reo remain optional for schools and kura to teach but are encouraged in Years 7-10.

This new phasing will support a smooth and manageable transition for primary schools.

For Years 9-10, schools and kura will be required to start using the updated full curriculum from the beginning of 2027.

The final Years 0-10 National Curriculum will be released around mid-2026, and schools and kura that are ready to start using it earlier are encouraged to do so.

We know teachers are busy, so we're not expecting perfection from day one in 2027. We are developing resources to support teachers to unpack and implement the new content.

The new senior secondary curriculum will be implemented over 2028 (Year 11), 2029 (Year 12) and 2030 (Year 13) alongside the new senior secondary qualifications.

Implementation timeframes

Years 0-10 English, Mathematics and Statistics, Te Reo Rangatira, and Pāngarau are already required to be used, except for some specified kura which have until 2027.

The rest of the National Curriculum is becoming required over the next five years:

- **2027:** Years 0-8 – Science, Social Sciences, Pūtaiao, and Pūmanawa Tangata.
Years 9-10 – all curriculum content.
- **2028:** Year 11 – all curriculum content
- **2029:** Years 0-8 – all remaining curriculum content: Health and Physical Education, The Arts, Technology, Learning Languages, Waiora, Toi Ihiihi, Hangarau, Te Reo Pākehā, and Ngā Reo.
Year 12 – all curriculum content.
- **2030:** Year 13 – all curriculum content.

2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Students start Years 0-6 English and Te Reo Rangatira, and Years 0-8 Mathematics and Statistics and Pāngarau	English, Te Reo Rangatira, Mathematics and Statistics, and Pāngarau extended to Years 0-10	As for 2026, and Years 9-10 full curriculum, and Years 0-8 Science, Social Sciences, Pūtaiao, and Pūmanawa Tangata	As for 2027, and extended to Year 11 full curriculum	As for 2028, and extended to Years 0-12 full curriculum	As for 2029, and extended to Year 13 full curriculum
English 0-6 Te Reo Rangatira 0-6	English 0-10 Te Reo Rangatira 0-10	English 0-10 Te Reo Rangatira 0-10	English 0-11 Te Reo Rangatira 0-11	English 0-12 Te Reo Rangatira 0-12	English 0-13 Te Reo Rangatira 0-13
Mathematics and Statistics 0-8	Mathematics and Statistics 0-10	Mathematics and Statistics 0-10	Mathematics and Statistics 0-11	Mathematics and Statistics 0-12	Mathematics and Statistics 0-13
Pāngarau 0-8	Pāngarau 0-10	Pāngarau 0-10	Pāngarau 0-11	Pāngarau 0-12	Pāngarau 0-13
		Science 0-10 Pūtaiao 0-10	Science 0-11 Pūtaiao 0-11	Science 0-12 Pūtaiao 0-12	Science 0-13 Pūtaiao 0-13
		Social Sciences 0-10	Social Sciences 0-11	Social Sciences 0-12	Social Sciences 0-13
		Te Pūmanawa Tangata 0-10	Te Pūmanawa Tangata 0-11	Te Pūmanawa Tangata 0-12	Te Pūmanawa Tangata 0-13
		Health & Physical Education 9-10	Health & Physical Education 9-11	Health & Physical Education 0-12	Health & Physical Education 0-13
		Waiora 9-10	Waiora 9-11	Waiora 0-12	Waiora 0-13
		The Arts 9-10	The Arts 9-11	The Arts 0-12	The Arts 0-13
		Toi Ihiihi 9-10	Toi Ihiihi 9-11	Toi Ihiihi 0-12	Toi Ihiihi 0-13
		Technology 9-10	Technology 9-11	Technology 0-12	Technology 0-13
		Hangarau 9-10	Hangarau 9-11	Hangarau 0-12	Hangarau 0-13
		Learning Languages 9-10	Learning Languages 9-11	Learning Languages 0-12	Learning Languages 0-13
		Ngā Reo 9-10	Ngā Reo 9-11	Ngā Reo 0-12	Ngā Reo 0-13
		Te Reo Pākehā 9-10	Te Reo Pākehā 9-11	Te Reo Pākehā 0-12	Te Reo Pākehā 0-13

Implementation v legal requirement

There are two distinct processes in introducing the final National Curriculum:

- **Legal mandate:** The final Years 0-10 curriculum will be formally issued in mid-2026. This will specify that schools are required to begin using the remaining updated Years 0-8 learning areas and wāhanga ako in two stages – one starting in 2027 and one starting in 2029. Each stage provides schools and kura with transition time to fully implement the content.

- **Implementation:** From the start of 2027, schools and kura are required to start using Years 0–8 Science, Social Sciences, Pūtaiao, and Pūmanawa Tangata. They can plan their full implementation over 2027 and 2028.

This is the same approach that was taken with English, Te Reo Rangatira, Mathematics & Statistics, and Pāngarau.

Teaching resources

The Ministry is already developing a range of tools and supporting resources to help school leaders and teachers start using the National Curriculum as it is updated.

Some of these, such as learning kits, which include annual plans, unit plans, and lesson plans, are already available on Tāhūrangi now.

These resources are being tested with educators throughout the year to help improve future development of the kits.

We will also provide professional learning development to help with implementation.

[Teaching resources to support the updated NZC](#)

[Teaching resources to support the updated TMoA](#)

For more information:

About the New Zealand Curriculum: nationalcurriculum.refresh@education.govt.nz.

About Te Marautanga o Aotearoa: whakahou.marautanga@education.govt.nz.

