

## **Reporting Student Achievement in ACT public schools**

### **A Guide for Parents and Carers 2013**

#### **Minister's message**

This guide for parents and carers provides information on the changes to reporting in ACT public schools as a result of the introduction of national Achievement Standards in the Australian Curriculum subject areas.

The ACT public school system has a tradition of excellence in education and is a national leader in this domain.

The introduction of the Kindergarten to Year 10 Australian Curriculum is an important opportunity for the ACT in continuing to provide excellence in teaching, learning and assessment to serve the needs of the ACT community.

Reporting using the Achievement Standards is an important milestone in the implementation of the Australian Curriculum. A national approach provides a consistent and clear process across systems and States and Territories for students and families to track their learning as they progress through school.

The ACT continues to lead in the implementation of the Australian Curriculum and the ACT Education and Training Directorate is committed to working with students, parents and carers throughout the implementation process.

Joy Burch MLA  
*Minister for Education and Training*

The Australian Curriculum emphasises the importance of knowledge, understanding, skills and values that will support all young Australians to become successful learners, confident and creative individuals and active and informed citizens.

The Australian Curriculum has been implemented in ACT public schools in the first four subject areas of English, Mathematics, Science and History for Kindergarten to Year 10 students.

#### **A change to reporting in 2013**

In 2013 all ACT public schools student reports for students in Kindergarten to Year 9 will change to include English, Mathematics, Science and History with reference to the Australian Curriculum Achievement Standard for each year level.

Achievement Standards describe what students are typically able to understand and do at each year level.

More information about Achievement Standards, including work samples to help teachers make judgements about student achievement is available on the Australian Curriculum Website [www.australiancurriculum.edu.au](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au) The website provides a useful guide to support your child's learning and your understanding of the process.

## **Year 10 Reporting**

For Year 10 students in 2013, teachers will continue to plan, teach and assess using the Australian Curriculum but will apply the same reporting criteria used in 2012. This approach will provide consistency on the 2013 ACT Year 10 Certificate which reports both Years 9 and 10 achievement.

## **The new report**

The new report will be the same across all ACT public schools and use an A-E grade scale for students in Years 1–9.

As is the current practice, Kindergarten students will not receive reports that use an A-E grade scale. Parents will receive information about the Kindergarten Achievement Standard attached to their school-based report.

Additionally, all ACT school-based reports will continue to provide parents and carers with detailed information on the progress of their child. This will include student strengths, areas for further development, strategies to support and/or extend their learning, social development and student involvement in school programs and activities. Information about the student's attitude and commitment to learning is also included.

The mid-year or Semester One report provides a grade for your child that reflects the knowledge, skills and understanding studied so far in the learning area.

## **Students Currently Exempt from A-E Reporting**

There are a small number of students who are currently exempt from A-E reporting requirements. These exemption arrangements are not changed under the new reporting requirements. Your school will advise you if your child is exempt from the A-E reporting requirements.

## **The A – E Report Format**

Your child's report will list a grade for each subject studied. The number of A E grades given to students in each year level will also be included as part of your child's report.

The following A–E descriptors will appear on the report:

- A demonstrating excellent achievement of what is expected
- B demonstrating a high achievement of what is expected
- C demonstrating satisfactory achievement of what is expected
- D demonstrating partial achievement of what is expected
- E demonstrating limited achievement of what is expected

## **Grade Descriptors and the "C" grade**

In ACT public schools the Australian Curriculum Achievement Standard is aligned with a 'C' grade. The 'C' grade indicates that your child has demonstrated a satisfactory level of knowledge, understanding and skill in relation to the Achievement Standard.

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## Personalised Learning Programs The (P) Identifier

For those students who are completing a personalised learning program (such as students with additional learning needs) the ACT A–E System Report will incorporate a ‘P’ identifier. The ‘P’ will appear next to the subject name on the report as shown below.

The ‘P’ identifier is intended for only a small number of students who are accessing an adjusted curriculum designed by their teacher to meet their learning needs. It does not include students who are participating in extension, enrichment or gifted and talented programs.

Teachers will be available to provide information to parents and carers about the nature and extent of the curriculum adjustment that has been made for their child where a ‘P’ identifier has been used or for students with gifted and talented adjustments.

## Sample Portion of an, ACT Public School Semester 2 Progress Report (A–E)

Year 4 Progress Report: Semester 1 2013

Student:

Roll Group:

Subject	Grade	Number of students in year group achieving grade					E
		A	B	C	D		
English	B	5	5	15	1	0	
Mathematics P	C	*	*	*	*	*	
Arts	B	5	7	10	2	1	

A ‘P’ after the Learning Area name indicates your child has been provided with a learning program that does not align exactly with the year level content prescribed in the Australian Curriculum. For further information on a specific personal learning program, please contact your child’s teacher.

### Achievement in relationship to other students in year group:

You can compare your child’s achievement with that of other students in the same year group in the school by comparing your child’s grade with the number of students achieving each grade.

\* denotes distribution not available due to small size of the group.

## Further Information

For more information please:

Contact your school

Visit the Australian Curriculum website: [www.australiancurriculum.edu.au](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au)

Visit the ACT Education and Training Directorate’s website: [www.det.act.gov.au](http://www.det.act.gov.au)