

Queensland Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting for state school students in Years 1–9

For parents

The Queensland Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting (QCAR) Framework aligns what is taught, how it is taught, and how your child's learning is assessed and reported.

It includes:

- Essential Learnings — clear statements about what is taught in Years 1–9 in eight learning areas
- Standards — to describe how well students in Years 1–9 have achieved
- Queensland Comparable Assessment Tasks — statewide assessment tasks in English, mathematics and science for students in Years 4, 6 and 9
- Reporting guidelines — to ensure that students and parents receive an easy-to-understand report card twice a year.

Regardless of the school they attend, all young Queenslanders need essential knowledge, skills and attributes to enjoy life and contribute to society. All Queensland state schools use the Queensland Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting (QCAR) Framework to provide opportunities for students to acquire the essential skills for life, now and in the future.



What are the Essential Learnings?

The Essential Learnings describe the key concepts, facts, procedures and ways of working that students need:

- for ongoing learning
- for social and personal competence
- to meet complex, real-life challenges.

There are Essential Learnings in eight areas:

- English
- health and physical education
- languages
- mathematics
- science
- studies of society and environment
- technology
- the arts.

What are the standards?

Teachers make judgments about student achievement based on evidence they collect over time. The following A to E standards apply across all key learning areas.

- A. Evidence in a student's work typically demonstrates a **very high** level of knowledge and understanding of concepts, facts and procedures, and application of processes.
- B. Evidence in a student's work typically demonstrates a **high** level of knowledge and understanding of concepts, facts and procedures, and application of processes.
- C. Evidence in a student's work typically demonstrates a **sound** level of

knowledge and understanding of concepts, facts and procedures, and application of processes.

- D.** Evidence in a student's work typically demonstrates a **limited** level of knowledge and understanding of concepts, facts and procedures, and application of processes.
- E.** Evidence in a student's work typically demonstrates a **very limited** level of knowledge and understanding of concepts, facts and procedures, and application of processes.

What are the Queensland Comparable Assessment Tasks (QCATs)?

The QCATs are assessment tasks in English, mathematics and science for students in Years 4, 6 and 9. These tasks are devised by the Queensland Studies Authority and all students take the same task at approximately the same time in the year.

The purpose of the QCATs is to provide information about student learning in targeted Essential Learnings in English, mathematics and science. QCATs also help promote consistency of

teacher judgments, and comparability of reported results across the state.

What do student reports look like?

Education Queensland reports twice a year using a five-point scale.

- In Years 1–3, the student's overall achievement in each of the learning areas studied over the reporting period is rated as: *Very High, High, Sound, Developing or Support Required*.
- In Years 4–9, teachers report on student achievement using A–E standards.

Using these standards promotes consistency of meaning for teachers, students and parents on both what was assessed and the quality of student performance or achievement.

Who developed QCAR?

QCAR was developed by the Queensland Government in collaboration with the Catholic, Independent and state schooling sectors.

For more information visit:
www.education.qld.gov.au/qcar