

Professional development and support materials

Teachers of WACE courses

Contact:

Tania Bauk (08) 9273 6331

tania.bauk@curriculum.wa.edu.au

The Curriculum Council will coordinate and deliver a PD program for new WACE courses starting in 2008 or 2009. Included are two central PD days on 28 April and 13 October, in addition to one school-based day on 30 May.

The central PD days will be course specific, addressing course content including curriculum planning and assessment. Teachers will be provided with support materials including sample examinations, grade descriptors and sample teaching programs and assessment outlines.

Arrangements for PD on 30 May will be flexible as teachers may wish to participate in school-based or regional PD/networking. Surveys in early 2008 will determine school needs and preferences. The Curriculum Council will assist AISWA, CEO and DET in providing regional support as required. Sessions may be conducted in metropolitan and regional venues, online or via teleconferencing. Further details are available in the Council's PD Plan, distributed at the end of 2007 and available on the Council website.

In addition, a series of WACE Awareness sessions will be offered on a needs basis in metropolitan and regional centres for staff who have not as yet had the opportunity to engage with the senior school reform.

A particular focus on teachers working with students with disabilities or those who are disengaged from schooling has also been built into the 2008 planning. A WACE Awareness day on 1 February 2008 is for teachers of students with a disability and who have not previously attended course-specific PD days. The day will provide an introduction to the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) and present a range of curriculum options for senior secondary students in education support contexts. The day will focus on courses with Preliminary and additional Stage 1 and endorsed programs. This focus for support will continue throughout the year after further consultation with the relevant teacher groups.

Updated support materials for implemented courses are on the Council website and are available through the course-specific pages. The first set of additional materials are sample unit packages that contain:

- a teaching program
- an assessment outline
- assessment tasks and marking keys (where available)

The sample units that have been placed on the website are for units likely to be timetabled in Semester 1, 2008. Sample unit packages for units likely to be timetabled in Semester 2 2008 will be available by mid year.