



Victorian Association for  
the Teaching of English

The Victorian Association for the Teaching of English Inc  
1/134-136 Cambridge Street, Collingwood, 3066  
Ph: 03 9411 8500 Fax: 03 9411 8511

The Victorian Association for the Teaching of English (VATE) is a professional body established to promote the interests of English education and to allow English educators in Victoria to exchange ideas. It brings together teachers in government, Catholic and independent schools, as well as tertiary educators and education students.

The Victorian Association for the Teaching of English is in agreement with the [submission](#) made by our affiliated national body, the Australian Association for the Teaching of English (AATE). VATE would like to make the following points:

1. In Victoria, government and Catholic schools were planning and trialling the F-10 Australian Curriculum: English (AC:E) in 2012 and implementing the curriculum in 2013. AusVELS has been developed as a single online portal which incorporates the first phase subjects with some realignment to incorporate the priorities and standards of the Victorian teaching community. The Victorian teaching community have had access to AusVELS since 2012, and this has allowed for resources and updates to be progressively available. At this stage in its development, to change/undo the curriculum would waste teacher time and resources invested in reimagining the teaching and learning programs in schools.
2. Victorian school communities have been engaged and supported in the implementation process. Teacher time and school resources have been invested to foster an understanding of the new curriculum, and what this means for the students and their learning. To interrupt this work would cause unnecessary disruption to schools.
3. The AC:E is a framing document, which has been developed through a robust consultative process. Victorian English teachers have been encouraged to implement this curriculum through a local lens. The AusVELS portal presents English through the modes (Speaking and listening, Writing, and Reading and viewing) which has assisted the ease of transition and reflects the priorities of the English teaching community.
4. The General capabilities have not yet been adopted by Victoria. Time is needed to see how these could be best used in implementation.
5. VATE supports the intent of the Cross-curriculum priorities, and the importance of these priorities to 21<sup>st</sup> century learners, and their ability to navigate and engage with a globalised world.
6. The three interrelated strands are essential components of the study of English and provide the necessary balance.



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7. VATE has worked consistently to provide feedback to ACARA at each iteration of the curriculum, and has provided leadership, advocacy and curriculum support to English teachers in the transition to the new curriculum. At this stage of the process, VATE would not support any change to the current curriculum.

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President

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