



# PRIMARY MATTERS

ISSUE 8, March 2016

Welcome to the March 2016 edition of Primary Matters. This newsletter provides information for primary schools across Australia about ACARA's projects.

## Welcome Dr Fiona Mueller – ACARA Director, Curriculum

In February, ACARA welcomed Dr Fiona Mueller as Director of Curriculum, replacing Dr Phil Lambert.

Fiona comes to ACARA from the Australian National University (ANU) College in Canberra, where she taught undergraduate and postgraduate students, and led the design and implementation of a wide range of programs and courses for international students on pathways to tertiary study.

For over 20 years, Fiona has taught English, French, German and Italian from Year 3 to Year 12 in schools in the ACT, NSW and overseas. She has maintained close involvement in curriculum, pedagogy and professional development for teachers throughout



her career, particularly in relation to English literacy. Her doctoral research focused on the history and contemporary provision of single-sex education in the public sector.

Fiona is the proud mother of two children; her daughter is a primary teacher and her son, who completed Year 12 in 2014, is planning a career in the Australian Defence Force.

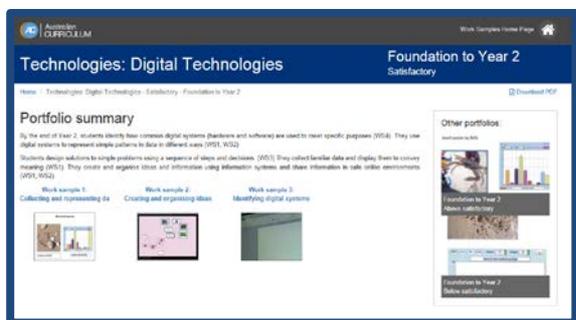
Fiona is thrilled to be working with parents, teachers, curriculum specialists and so many others as the Australian Curriculum is developed and improved to meet the needs of children across the country. She says, *"We all have a fantastic opportunity to collaborate on a curriculum for generations of young learners – how could you not be excited about that?"*

## Work samples: much easier to view and compare

The Curriculum team is developing work sample portfolios for Technologies, The Arts, Health and Physical Education, Geography (7–10), Civics and Citizenship (7–10), Economics & Business (7–10) and Humanities and Social Sciences (F–6/7). These portfolios will be published in a new content management system. The system will allow users to search for work samples, compare two similar work samples in a learning area and move through satisfactory, above satisfactory and below satisfactory portfolios with ease.

Technologies and The Arts work sample portfolios will be the first to be published later in 2016.

Subscribe to [ACARA Update](#) to receive notification when the portfolios are published.



View of the new Australian Curriculum work samples

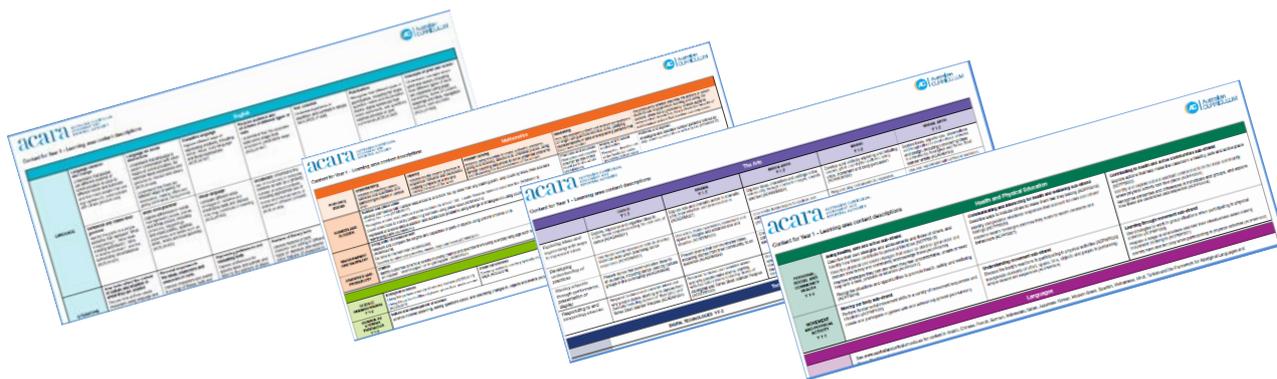
## Version 8.1 of the Australian Curriculum resources

ACARA has updated and improved the scope and sequence documents, and created new resources for version 8 of the Australian Curriculum.

### Available now:

- achievement on a page – achievement standards for all learning areas / subjects for one year level on a page
- content for a year level – content descriptions for one year or band level for all learning areas

The achievement on a page documents can be found in the '[Learning F-2](#)' and '[Learning 3-6](#)' sections of the Australian Curriculum website.



Please pass our newsletter on to your primary colleagues. The Primary Curriculum team contact details are below and we would welcome any feedback or questions about ACARA's work.

Primary Curriculum team members are happy to discuss our projects. Contact us directly by email:

Jenny Avvenevole, Senior Project Officer, Early Childhood and Primary: [jenny.avvenevole@acara.edu.au](mailto:jenny.avvenevole@acara.edu.au)