

New K-2 English and Mathematics Syllabuses

The NSW school curriculum has undergone comprehensive reform over the past few years. This has resulted in the introduction of new English and Mathematics Syllabuses. This year was the introduction of these new English and Mathematics Syllabus for Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 students. Below is an explanation of the new terminology that will be used in the student school reports that you will be able to access via Compass on Friday 16 June.

English Terminology

Oral language and communicating focuses on using more advanced speaking and listening skills to clearly communicate with greater detail and socially connect with peers and teachers.

Vocabulary focuses on developing the knowledge of words, their meaning and how they are used to extend ideas while speaking, listening, reading and writing.

Phonic knowledge focuses on continuing to use existing knowledge of letter–sound relationships as well as digraphs (2 letters which make 1 sound) and trigraphs (3 letters which make 1 sound).

Reading fluency focuses on developing a reading style that is smooth, which uses an expressive voice. Self-correction is used when meaning or reading flow is interrupted.

Reading comprehension focuses on understanding the meaning of words and sentences within longer and more complex texts, while using background knowledge and personal experiences to increase comprehension.

Creating written texts focuses on creating texts that use knowledge of grammar, vocabulary and punctuation while using paragraphs to structure sentences and ideas.

Spelling focuses on using a range of strategies to spell high-frequency words as well as less familiar words for different writing purposes.

Handwriting focuses on using a clear and fluent handwriting style to confidently form all upper-case and lower-case letters in NSW Foundation Style. Keyboard skills are also developed using digital technology and word-processing applications.

Understand and respond to literature focuses on the reactions, thoughts, opinions and ideas that are inspired by fiction (imaginative) and nonfiction (informative) books and texts.

Mathematics Terminology

Working Mathematically focuses on the processes involved in Mathematics. These include:

- communicating
- understanding and fluency
- reasoning
- problem-solving

Students learn to work mathematically by using these processes in an interconnected way.

Representing whole numbers focuses on how whole numbers show quantity and reading and representing numerals.

Combining and separating quantities focuses on addition and subtraction.

Forming groups focuses on forming groups through sharing and counting objects and making and continuing patterns that repeat.

Geometric measure focuses on position, direction and measuring length.

2D spatial structure focuses on recognising, representing and describing common 2D shapes and describing and comparing area.

3D spatial structure focuses on recognising, representing and describing common 3D shapes and describing and comparing volume.

Non-spatial measures focuses on describing and comparing the masses of objects and sequencing events and reading the hour time on clocks.

Data focuses on collecting data, making meaning from a data display and interpreting and describing the results.