

Quality Moderation of Assessments Process (Qmap)

Contact: *Meriloy Horsham*

From 2005 all K-10 teachers in Tasmanian government schools will start assessing student work against the Essential Learnings Framework. So that teachers can develop a common understanding of how to apply the Essential Learnings standards when assessing student work, a moderation process, the Quality Moderation of Assessments Process (Qmap) will be started in 2005.

Planning is currently underway with the Essential learnings Assessment Support Leaders for the first student free Qmap day on 24 March. Principals will be asked to nominate a school moderator to facilitate communication about Qmap.

Assessment, Monitoring and Reporting Strategic Plan 2005-2008

Contact: *Jenny Gale*

The 2005-2008 Strategic Plan, which takes account of the minimum assessment and reporting requirements for the Essential Learnings Framework, and provides information about the responsibilities of teachers, was distributed to schools last term. The strategic plan can be found at www.education.tas.gov.au/oer/AMRpolicy. Please note a typographical error on page 18 of the hardcopy distributed to schools. Being Arts Literate should be added to the list of calibrated outcomes being specifically assessed in 2007 and 2008.

Year 10 Assessment Report

Contact: *Sharyn Lidster*

In 2005 the Year 10 Assessment Report will replace the TCE for all Year 10 students. Student performance will be assessed against the Essential Learnings Framework. More detailed information will be available in schools prior to Easter.

SARIS

Contact: *Nigel Cross*

The first release of the Student Assessment and Reporting Information System (SARIS) at the beginning of term one will include the summative module and the SARIS 'Sandpit' training databases only. The optional formative or workbook module will be released initially within the Sandpit only for a limited trial in term one.

Every teacher will receive SARIS training this year at times that will be negotiated with principals according to school reporting timeframes. An information sheet for teachers is available at www.education.tas.gov.au/oer/SARIS

Kindergarten Development Check (KDC)

Contact: *Suzanne Pennicott-Jones*

Welcome to the KDC for 2005. The KDC manual and a letter explaining implementation was sent to kindergarten teachers in the first week of February. The process for implementation of the KDC is very similar to past years; however with the introduction of SARIS there will be significant beneficial changes to data entry.

Further details concerning SARIS professional learning will be in schools shortly.

Assessment Dates:

The first assessment is to be conducted throughout term 1 and all data should be entered into SARIS by Friday 27 May 2005. The data will be automatically and securely stored in SARIS requiring no addition uploads to the data warehouse. Second assessment data should be entered into SARIS by Friday 30 September 2005.

Move Well Eat Well for Schools

Contact: *Suzanne Pennicott-Jones*

This 3 year project (2004 – 2006) which is financed under the Community Support Levy funding involves the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Education's School Improvement Review (SIR) process.

A resource to support school communities identify and achieve targets in nutrition and physical activity for students is being developed.

OER will be conducting the evaluation of this initiative.

School Improvement Review (SIR)

Contact: *Andrew Mahoney*

Information about the interim arrangements for SIR in 2005 can be found at

<http://www.education.tas.gov.au/oer/SIR/SIR2005/>.

The following are relevant term 1 dates:

- Annual Report – completed by March 25
- Organisational Health Survey – conducted March 30 – April 29
- Parent Opinion Survey – conducted 4 April to 6 May

The end of term 2 is the expected completion date for audits and scan by schools and clusters.

Calibration

Contact: *Heather Jatan*

The final progression levels for Maintaining Wellbeing, together with some calibration tasks, their rubrics, and samples of student responses are now available on the Learning Teaching and Assessment Guide. These will assist in understanding the standards, and may be used in conjunction with teachers' own assessments when making on-balance judgments.

The Tstandards for Being Literate and Being Numerate/Inquiry have been calibrated, and student responses rated and analysed. Draft progression statements will be available for comment by the end of March and annotated student responses for selected tasks will be progressively made available. The calibration of the standards for Being Information Literate and Acting Democratically/Reflective Thinking will be calibrated in 2005.

Support for the various stages of the calibration process will be sought throughout 2005 and participation will provide teachers, schools and clusters with valuable professional learning opportunities.

<http://www.ltag.education.tas.gov.au/>

