



Primary Matters

Mathematics Outcomes and Indicators

Many schools have welcomed the release of *Mathematics K–6 Outcomes and Indicators* as an opportunity to revisit the Mathematics key learning area. In particular, the focus has been on *Working Mathematically*. This strand reflects the section of the Mathematics K–6 Syllabus on problem solving and technology. The structure of this strand makes clear the skills, knowledge and understandings to be developed in the problem-solving process, as well as the place of technology, especially computers and calculators, through the stage outcomes. The six sequences presented in the *Working Mathematically* strand have increased attention on how students learn mathematics.

A number of schools are planning workshops for parents on outcomes in Mathematics. The Office of the Board of Studies is developing a brochure, with the assistance of parent groups, to assist this process. The brochure will be sent to schools in Term 4. Each school will receive a master copy that can be copied and distributed to parents as needed.

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

The draft Personal Development, Health and Physical Education K–6 Syllabus is currently being revised by a project team. The number of outcomes is being reduced from the 1992 draft, and the revised outcomes are being trialled by teachers across the State.

At the same time, a variety of student work samples are being collected from schools. The final syllabus and support document will include many of these work samples.

Science and Technology

Support material for Science and Technology K–6 is on the Board's website. *Science and Technology K–6: Updates from the Classroom* looks at 'Engaging Students in the Design Process', and features a Year 5/6 class from Penshurst West Public School working on a unit on 'Space'. Part 1 of this article focuses on the background, unit tasks and investigation prior to designing and making. Part 2 concerns modelling the design process and collaborative planning and design. The final part will be on the website soon. Visit the Board website at <http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au> and go to K–6 News, under Science and Technology.

Special Education

Copies of the two special education interim support documents, *Literacy* and *Communication*, were distributed to schools in March 1997. Both documents are highly regarded in schools and are viewed by teachers as sound resources for students with special education needs. The documents are available for \$8.

If you would like to purchase further copies, please contact:

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