Video transcript

Foundational skills – Introduction

Hello and welcome.

Digital literacy, literacy and numeracy are fundamental to all learning and are referred to as ‘foundational skills’ within the Victorian Curriculum F–10 Version 2.0. All students should leave school with the necessary proficiency in literacy and numeracy, and in digital literacy, to fully participate in work and the community as active and informed citizens who contribute to Australian society and the economy.

The aim of this video is to familiarise you with the foundational skills, which offer a comprehensive view of digital literacy, literacy and numeracy learning, and describe observable skills.

Let's begin by discussing what the foundational skills are. The foundational skills are not curriculums in and of themselves; rather, they are curriculum components. This means they do not have achievement standards or content descriptions. They are the foundational knowledge and skills that underpin all learning across the entire Victorian Curriculum F–10 Version 2.0. Their development is enabled by the achievement of the knowledge and skills, mainly located in the Victorian Curriculum F–10 Version 2.0 Digital Technologies, English and Mathematics, and are further developed and applied in the other learning areas and capabilities.

Schools and teachers can use the 3 foundational skills to ascertain students’ stages of learning, identify any gaps in skills and knowledge, and plan teaching and learning programs that meet students' point of need to progress learning. They can be used as reference points for curriculum planning and to support teachers to support their students to engage with the digital literacy, literacy and numeracy aspects of all curriculum areas.

As mentioned, the 3 foundational skills in the Victorian Curriculum F–10 Version 2.0 are Digital Literacy, Literacy and Numeracy. The Digital Literacy foundational skill is organised as a learning continuum that describes the knowledge, skills and behaviours that students can reasonably be expected to develop from Prep to Year 10. It is comprised of 4 elements: Practising digital safety and wellbeing, Investigating, creating and exchanging, and Managing and operating. Each element includes sub-elements that represent fundamental digital literacy skills.

Literacy and Numeracy are presented as progressions of student learning that describe the learning pathways along which a student typically progresses, regardless of age or year level. The Literacy foundational skill is presented as a progression that describes the observable indicators of increasing complexity in the use of Standard Australian English. It is comprised of 3 elements: Speaking and Listening; Reading and Viewing; and Writing. Each element includes sub-elements organised into levels that represent evidence-based aspects of literacy development. The progressions have been mapped to the curriculum level expectations for English.

The Numeracy foundational skill is presented as a progression that describes the observable indicators of increasing complexity in the understanding of, and skills in, key numeracy concepts. It is comprised of 3 elements: Number sense in algebra, Measurement and geometry, and Statistics and probability. Each element includes sub-elements that represent the evidence-based aspects of numeracy development, organised into levels. The progressions have been mapped to the curriculum-level expectations in Mathematics. The Victorian Curriculum F–10 Version 2.0 foundational skills will assist teachers and schools in all learning areas to support their students to successfully engage with the digital literacy, literacy and numeracy aspects of the curriculum. They can be used to establish which skills a student understands and can apply, identify any gaps in students' digital literacy, literacy and numeracy skills and knowledge, and to plan for the next steps to progress learning across the curriculum.

For more information, I encourage you to explore the Victorian Curriculum F–10 website, which provides easy access to the curriculum, including the 3 foundational skills and all the supporting resources.

Thank you for watching.