



Government of **Western Australia**
School Curriculum and Standards Authority

CHILDREN, FAMILY AND THE COMMUNITY

General course

Year 12 syllabus – What’s changing: Rationale and Aims

For teaching in 2027

Acknowledgement of Country

Kaya. The School Curriculum and Standards Authority (the Authority) acknowledges that our offices are on Whadjuk Noongar boodjar and that we deliver our services on the country of many traditional custodians and language groups throughout Western Australia. The Authority acknowledges the traditional custodians throughout Western Australia and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We offer our respect to Elders past and present.

Background

As part of the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) Refreshment for reviewing the nomenclature of courses, the Authority has updated the rationale and aims of each syllabus.

The revised rationale and aims are aligned with the mapping of the general capabilities to provide clear connections between the rationale, aims and syllabus content. The rationale outlines what the subject is about and why it is important. It describes what students can expect to study in the course, along with the knowledge, skills and understandings they will develop throughout the course. It also explains how these can be applied in everyday life and references potential future pathways, outlining how students might connect what they learn in the course to further education, training and employment opportunities.

Important information

WACE Refreshment: Reviewing the nomenclature of courses

This document contains information that will be included in the syllabus effective from 1 January 2027.

Users of the syllabus are responsible for checking its currency.

Syllabuses are formally reviewed by the Authority on a cyclical basis, typically every five years.

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Rationale

The Children, Family and the Community General course develops students' knowledge and appreciation of influences on human growth and development and provides a context for the wellbeing of individuals, families and communities. Students develop an understanding of the effects that social, cultural, ethical, economic, political and technological circumstances have on the ability of individuals and families to recognise and fulfil their roles and responsibilities within the community. They recognise the knowledge, protocols and skills required to support inclusion and diversity and aid in the creation and development of safe, cohesive and sustainable communities.

Students build on the continually evolving practices, conditions and requirements of working with children, families and the community, with a focus on practical skills and professional expectations. They investigate social and community responsibilities, ethical practices and environmental factors in the design and evaluation of proposals and creation of products and services for specified needs. To encourage and promote optimal growth and development of individuals, family and communities, students become aware of a range of influences which contribute to making informed decisions. These include social, cultural and ethical norms, community responsibilities, access to support services, expected protocols and regulatory requirements that oversee the provision of support services.

Students interact, communicate and investigate products, services and systems to provide options to resolve issues, promote cohesion and define the challenges of individuals, families and communities. They advocate; consider alternative perspectives, protocols and practices; problem-solve; and make informed decisions and consider preferred actions for personal, family and community requirements. Students communicate and interact with children, families and community groups in practical ways. They learn to appreciate ways that beliefs, values and ethical influences are considered when individuals, families and communities make decisions.

The course builds on students' ability to clarify concepts and ideas, and acquire, develop and apply practical skills for use in everyday life. These skills support confidence, independent living and an appreciation of social, ethical, economic, community and environmental resources. Key skills developed include advocacy, project management, collaboration, problem-solving, effective communication, negotiation, leadership, ethical judgement, exploring alternatives, and applying regulatory requirements for safe environments. Students also learn about workplace health and safety roles and responsibilities.

The course provides students with essential foundations for further training and industry-related careers in areas such as education, nursing, psychology, community services, social work, care work and management including aged care and childcare, early childhood supervision, the allied health sector, volunteering and local government. Through practical experience, students in the course become informed contributors to community wellbeing.

Aims

The Children, Family and the Community General Year 12 course aims to develop students’:

- knowledge, skills and understanding of factors, practices and processes to assist individuals and families to live, contribute and work in safe, cohesive and inspiring communities
- appreciation of factors that impact on, and strategies designed to promote and optimise, human growth and development
- application of the technology process to meet human needs by
 - investigating and ideating issues, values, needs and opportunities
 - generating and designing ideas for production proposals
 - organising, implementing and adjusting production processes
 - producing a product, service and/or system
 - evaluating intentions, plans and actions
- application of advocacy skills, self-management and interpersonal skills to establish and maintain relationships
- ability to communicate information for a range of purposes and audiences
- respect for interrelationships, social structures and ways that social issues and trends result from social, cultural, environmental, economic and political forces, and how political and legal systems are shaped by the rights and responsibilities of individuals, families and communities.