

A guide to the new Mathematics Syllabus for NSW Primary Mathematics K-6



This guide contains a clear, concise overview of the key changes to the Mathematics Syllabus for New South Wales (2023) and is designed to save you time and help you plan and implement the new syllabus with confidence.



Why is the **New South Wales Syllabus changing?**

The NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) has redeveloped the Mathematics Syllabus in response to the recommendations of the NSW Curriculum Review (Masters 2020).

This is the first comprehensive reform of the NSW school curriculum in three decades.

NSW has taken an 'adopt and adapt' approach to incorporate Australian Curriculum content into the NSW Curriculum. The syllabus has been restructured to remove peripheral content and help teachers and students focus on developing fluency of core maths skills and in-depth understanding of essential mathematical concepts over time.

Planning and preparation for years 3-6 begins from 2023 with implementation in 2024.



How is the curriculum and content changing?

The new syllabus focuses on students developing an understanding of mathematical concepts, fluency with mathematical processes and ability to interpret and solve problems. Learning core maths skills and concepts within a real-world context is emphasized.

Mathematics years 3-6 outcomes and content include*:

- a more explicit focus on working mathematically, with reasoning embedded within the content and examples. Mathematical reasoning is identified as the essence of working mathematically
- a new streamlined structure with focus areas and content groups. In addition, content points are clustered within content groups to identify essential knowledge and skills
- a focus on making explicit connections between mathematical concepts by highlighting related outcomes and content that can be taught in parallel
- greater emphasis on the structure of place value
- stronger connections between shape, transformations and areas
- consistent representations of mathematical models and structures across focus areas
- the embedding of patterns and algebra in additive and multiplicative relations, and in two-dimensional spatial structure
- the separation of fractions into two focus areas:
 - Partitioned fractions (Stage 2)
 - Representing quantity fractions (Stage 3)
- the separation of whole number into two focus areas:
 - Representing numbers using place value (Stage 2) Representing numbers (Stage 3)
- The embedding of decimals and percentages in:
 - Representing numbers using place value (Stage 2)
 - Representing numbers (Stage 3)
- strong examples that make clear what is syllabus content and what is provided as support
- the removal of stage statements. Teaching advice has been provided that strengthens understanding of syllabus content, which supports teachers to make informed pedagogical decisions.

* https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/mathematics/leading-mathematics-k-12/ leading-mathematics-k-6/mathematics-3-6-syllabus-information





Oxford primary maths programs are updated for the new NESA Syllabus

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- Maths Plus offers explicit instruction, practice and consolidation, » problem-solving tasks, mentals and homework activities.



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Oxford Maths for New South Wales is a comprehensive and engaging whole-school program that:

- is written by experienced classroom teachers and offers » complete coverage of the outcomes, concepts and content descriptions in the NESA Syllabus for Mathematics
- takes a balanced approach, with a wealth of hands-on activities, smallgroup/whole-class tasks, practice exercises and openended problem-solving opportunities
- allows teachers to track student progress with a range of print and digital assessment options.



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