

CURRICULUM

1. **A4.** DIRRANBANDI BRANCH

“That ICPA QLD Inc lobbies the Department of Education to develop considerations to ensure that geographically isolated students, enrolled in Distance Education, are not disadvantaged by the assessment processes with the new Senior Assessment and Tertiary Entrance system.”

Carried

Explanation: From 2020, our senior students will be required to have a third party administer more assessment/exams. Considerations need to be made available to ensure that these identified families and students are not penalised if unforeseen circumstances arrive that hinder the exam requirements.

**considerations that include travel – weather conditions and road travel that legally would not permit families to travel safely to sit an exam

**considerations that include deadline date – limited flexibility for final postage/email date due to medical, supervisor availability.

2. **S3.** ST. GEORGE BRANCH

“That ICPA QLD Inc. request that those Independent Schools in Queensland, who commence their ATAR subjects in the year prior, be aware of and monitor students that enter their school at the start of Year 11 and take their academic level into account when planning lessons.”

Carried

Explanation: With students and their families needing to have the flexibility to change learning environments for their child/ren when it is suitable for their personal situation, this can see a student enter into an Independent School environment for their senior years of study (years 11 and 12). If the school has commenced their senior schooling program (ATAR) in year 10 the new student needs assistance not only to adapt to the new living environment as well as the academic environment. Awareness and support is essential for not only the environmental factors but also the emotional stress of potentially being behind in their studies due to the independent school based decision to commence the ATAR program in the year prior.

3. **S4.** TAMBO BRANCH

“That ICPA Qld lobby the Department of Education to ensure that all sectors of Agriculture Production are taught in classrooms.”

Carried

Explanation: For too long now the agriculture component in the curriculum has been focused on limited aspects of agriculture. Whilst it is important to teach students about the environment there is a much bigger picture at play. It is extremely worrying that our urban students are not being educated in the fields of animal husbandry, production and cropping for example. There are too many students who do not know where eggs come from, milk etc. and how do you grow a carrot or a cotton crop. Rural and remote students are also disadvantaged as they only have the knowledge of what happens at home and nothing in a broader sense. It is disappointing to see so many young people protesting, tying themselves to abattoirs, going on strike and causing great upset due to ignorance and being indoctrinated by the education system.

4. **S5.TAROOM/WANDOAN BRANCH**

“That ICPA QLD lobby the DoE to include Prep to year 4 in the mandatory LOTE curriculum.”

Lost

Explanation: “The cognitive benefits of learning a language have a direct impact on a child’s academic achievement. Compared to those without an additional language, bilingual children have improved reading, writing, and math skills, and they generally score higher on standardized tests.”

(American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages – ACTFL)

Queensland schools are strongly encouraged to offer language and cultural learning from Prep to Year 12. For students in remote and regional areas who are unable to access LOTE teachers, online courses through distance education is the only way to learn a second language. LOTE in QLD is mandatory for years 5 - 8 and an online course is available through distance education. Students in Prep – Year 4 in remote and regional areas have neither language teachers nor any LOTE course available to them through DE. Including Prep to Year 4 in the mandatory LOTE program, would require an online DE program to be made available to these children.

“Studying another language is not a speciality for a few. It provides the opportunity to develop competencies required for everyone in the age of globalisation”. *(Professor Yong Zhao)*

5. F1. TAROOM/WANDOAN

“That ICPA QLD INC Lobby the Department of Education to provide equity of access to the LOTE curriculum from Prep regardless of location.”

Carried