

**The National  
Curriculum  
and The Expert  
Advisory Groups  
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# Aims

To provide you with an update on the work of the expert advisory groups - a sector-based response to the implementation of the new curriculum.

# Significant Changes to the National Curriculum

- New national curriculum sees government setting out the 'what' and not the 'how'
- Shorter programmes of study setting out core content
- Fuller for key stage 1-2 maths and English
- Disapplication – giving schools time to prepare by adapting curriculum in 2013/14
- The removal of levels

# Vision for delivery

“...But what really matters is that this is a new approach to education, one that gives head teachers and schools far greater freedom. How they implement the national curriculum is down to them.

There will be no new statutory document telling teachers how to do their job. No national strategies telling teachers everything that they have to do. No national roll-out. This is a huge cultural shift.”

*Elizabeth Truss, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State (education and childcare) Speech at: <http://www.education.gov.uk/inthenews/speeches/a00222888/felcom>*

# The National Curriculum Expert Subject Advisory Groups



[www.expertsubjectadvisorygroups.co.uk](http://www.expertsubjectadvisorygroups.co.uk)

# The Context

- The groups were formed in January 2013 by NCTL ;
- To provide expert advice to providers of ITT;
- They were inclusive in their membership;
- They included 11 subjects.

# The shift to becoming sector-led

- **“for the sector by the sector”**
- In collaboration with the DfE;
- The groups are non-politicized;
- The membership of the groups has shifted as the remit has been extended;

# Generic challenges

- The impact of school inspections;
- Progression;
- Assessment;
- Creativity;
- The enhanced need for pedagogical understanding;
- Curriculum planning and curriculum capacity in schools.

# The big challenges for providers of ITT

- The challenges of curriculum design;
- Varying levels of readiness of partnership schools;
- Availability and dissemination of CPD for school staff;
- Availability of collaborative learning strategies;
- Time for foundation subjects;
- Lack of guidance in terms of pedagogic approaches to learning.

# Outputs from the groups 2013

The work of the groups across the subject areas will include the following:

- Audit tools;
- Expert advice about resources;
- Guidance about approaches to pedagogy;
- Indications of implicit curriculum content necessary to ensure progression.

# Outputs from the groups

The materials produced by the groups is being hosted on a range of subject association websites as well as on those of other strategic partners;

The DfE website, The ESAG website, UCET and NASBTT will signpost schools and providers to the various advice.

# Groups for 2013-15

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- PE
- RE
- History
- Geography
- Music
- Modern Languages
- PSHE
- Citizenship
- Cultural Education
- Design and Technology
- Art and Design

# The work during 2013-14

- An audit of publications that support the new curriculum;
- Creating a strategic network that engages a range of stakeholders;
- Developing relationships with subject associations to work collaboratively;
- Producing guidance on assessment;
- Providing expert views to Ministers;
- Developing engagement with the publishing community;
- Sourcing funding for any future work;
- Identifying mechanisms for effective communication with the sector.

# Strategic leadership

We now have two groups that meet outside of the subject specific work:

**The Chair's Group:** to identify common concerns and possibilities for cross curricular collaboration.

**The Strategic Group:** to identify the most effective way to disseminate advice and share best practice whilst engaging a range of stakeholders.

# Plans for the future

- Work with subject associations and other groups to explore additional possibilities for the dissemination of pedagogical research in a way that is meaningful to classroom teachers;
- Develop collaborative partnerships with publishers through the publishers associations;
- Provide politically independent expert advice.

- Pedagogy;
- A creative curriculum that responds to evidence and research;
- Secure subject knowledge.

# The Curriculum - Looking Ahead

- **September 2014:** first teaching of national curriculum, except years 2 and 6 for English, mathematics and science, and key stage 4 EMS
- **Summer 2015:** final key stage 2 tests based on previous curriculum
- **September 2015:** first teaching of new GCSEs in English language, English literature and mathematics
- **Summer 2016:** first new key stage 2 tests and whatever baseline assessment is decided after consultation
- **Summer 2017:** first examination of new GCSEs in English language, English literature and mathematics