



Key information for the English Life Skills Stage 6 syllabus

- Schools and teachers use syllabuses to develop educational programs for students. The [English Life Skills Stage 6 Syllabus \(2017\)](#) syllabus provides students with the opportunity to develop effective communication and literacy skills to enhance student's participation in all aspects of post-school life. Refer to the [English Life Skills Stage 6 Syllabus \(2017\)](#) for further information regarding course structure, requirements, and assessment.
- The modules in the English Studies Stage 6 and English Standard Stage 6 courses provide possible frameworks for addressing the English Life Skills outcomes and content and are suggestions only. Teachers have the flexibility to design modules that will meet the needs and interests of their students.
- The [English Life Skills Stage 6 Syllabus \(2017\)](#) will be taught in all NSW high schools until 2026. The [new English 11-12 syllabuses](#) will be taught to Year 11 in 2026.

Life Skills eligibility

- Stage 6 Life Skills courses are designed for students with an intellectual disability or imputed intellectual disability who cannot access related general education courses. Principals decide on course access through the [collaborative curriculum planning](#) process with the student, their parents/carers and teachers, considering individual needs for each subject. These courses are not suitable for students who could engage with general course outcomes through appropriate adjustments and support.

Assessment

- Students must demonstrate achievement of one or more Life Skills outcomes.
- Assessments can be flexible, using various options (e.g., written, spoken, visual, assistive technologies) and may be implemented in different learning environments.
- Formal assessment of Life Skills outcomes is not required. More information about assessment can be found at [Assessment and reporting](#).
- Stage 6 Life Skills courses do not have external examinations.

Support materials

The English 7-12 curriculum team provides resources to support NSW Department of Education teachers in the delivery of the [English Life Skills Stage 6 Syllabus \(2017\)](#). Support materials available include:

- [English Life Skills 7–12](#) – this page contains advice and resources to support you in planning, organising and communicating the requirements of the English courses.
- The English curriculum 7–12 team also provides professional learning sessions, and the recordings of past ones to support NSW Department of Education teachers through the English [Statewide Staffroom \(staff only\)](#). Join the English statewide staffroom to access these valuable resources and support.
- Resources, advice and templates through the NSW Department of Education's [Planning, programming and assessing 7–12](#) webpage.

Further advice to support students with a disability can be found on the [Students with a disability](#) webpage. The [Inclusive Practice Hub](#) provides resources for schools to support students with disability and additional needs.



Professional learning

Professional learning for supporting students with disability includes:

- Self-paced school facilitator-led professional learning - [Supporting students with disability in the curriculum](#).
- [Curriculum planning for every student in every classroom](#) MyPL course.

The English curriculum 7–12 team provides professional learning materials through the English [Statewide Staffroom \(staff only\)](#). Join the English statewide staffroom to access these valuable resources and support. The recordings and resources are housed in the [Professional learning channel \(staff only\)](#).

The team also offers a range of live online and face to face professional learning events throughout the year. To view any upcoming events, go to the [Professional Learning English K–12 calendar](#).

General HSC information

- The [NSW Education Standards Authority \(NESA\)](#) oversees the Higher School Certificate (HSC).
- The [NESA Life Skills](#) webpage provides further information about Life Skills eligibility, course options, planning and programming, assessment and reporting and credentials.
- The [ACE rules](#) outline important information related to Life Skills including eligibility, assessment, HSC requirements, course completion and credentialling.

Contact us

- If you would like further information or support, please email the English 7-12 curriculum team: English.curriculum@det.nsw.edu.au
- Join or reach out to the team via the [7-12 English statewide staffroom](#).

