



Montessori National Curriculum Project

Montessori Australia (MA) is working towards developing a standardized and unified Montessori education system encompassing the MNC, MQAP and Montessori Quality Teacher Training Program (MQTTP) for schools and centres across Australia. To this end we have met with various Government entities, including ACARA with whom we are working to update the MNC to match changes in the Australian Curriculum. Concurrently we are exploring and have engaged with organisations that develop electronic systems of programming and record keeping specific to Montessori education. The project involves developing a network of Systemic Montessori Schools that can support inter teacher and inter school communication, sharing of resources and at the same time provide standard program maps and records that all schools/centres can use to meet State/Territory regulatory standards and that is based upon and linked to the whole MNC.

The MNC is inclusive of the first three Planes of Development and therefore covers curriculum for Early Years through to Upper Adolescence. The MNC project is being executed by two specialised Focus groups:-

The Curriculum & School Support Focus group is currently engaged in the process of Recognition of Additional subject areas with ACARA. This incorporates the 2nd and 3rd (to age 16) Planes of Development of the MNC. Areas to be included for recognition by ACARA are subjects in the Arts, HASS (Civics & Citizenship, Business & Economics, Geography) and Technologies (Design & Technology, Digital Technologies). The process also encompasses mapping and updating the current Montessori National Curriculum areas, where necessary, with the recent changes to the Australian Curriculum.

The Curriculum team has also begun the mapping of the Montessori National Curriculum to State/Territory Standards. The team is exploring electronic systems that can be used by a network of multiple schools and centres across Australia to provide a digital program framework to follow, facilitate record keeping and which will also demonstrate compliance with Local & State/Territory Regulatory Authority requirements. The goal is that this will enable individual schools and centres to be part of a network and help to move Montessori education in Australia toward a Systemic entity.

The Early Years Learning Focus Group is currently reviewing and updating the handbook for ECEC with regard for ACECQA standards to support the organisations just beginning to create independent Montessori early childhood centres and those re registering their centres. The work in this area incorporates inclusion of the MNC Montessori Early Years Program that is relevant to the 1st Plane of Development. Electronic systems for programs and record keeping will also be explored alongside the work of the Curriculum team so that the whole of the MNC from 0-16yrs will be an accessible and currently relevant document.