



Principal Curriculum Coordinator PD Coordinator AIM Coordinator P-10 Teacher

P-10 Supplement

Information about Prep to Year 10 education in Victorian schools

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Student Learning DVD

The *Student Learning – April 2005 DVD* developed by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) and the Department of Education and Training's Office of Learning and Teaching will be distributed to schools in May 2005. It is designed to facilitate teacher access to Student Learning materials by providing a single resource with a common menu and search function and can be used as read-only or installed on an individual computer or network. This is the first of two DVDs to be distributed to all schools in 2005.

Developed from online publications, the DVD combines:

- the *Victorian Essential Learning Standards* website <<http://vels.vcaa.vic.edu.au>>
- the Student Learning section of the *Blueprint for Government Schools* website <www.sofweb.vic.edu>

au/blueprint/fs1/default.asp> including the Curriculum Planning Guidelines, Principles of Learning and Teaching, links to Assessment and Reporting and to Knowledge Bank.

- the Curriculum and Standards Framework II and the complete suite of support materials developed by the VCAA from 2000 to 2003.

Throughout 2005 the Victorian Essential Learning Standards will be validated through a number of projects including trials of standards with schools, structured

feedback from the education community, independent reviews and benchmarking. A second DVD will be distributed to all schools in Term 4 2005 with updated information.

These three resources were developed separately and have their own look and feel and menu systems. To help users find their way around this DVD a common 'main menu' page and navigation banner have been included (see Figure 1).

For information about how to navigate through the DVD, see page 2.

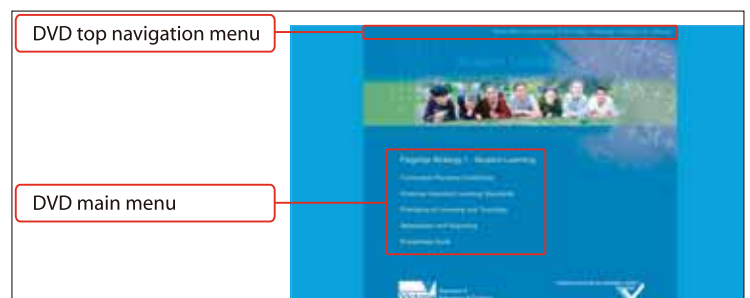


Figure 1



Navigating the Student Learning DVD

Victorian Essential Learning Standards

The *Victorian Essential Learning Standards* section of the DVD has the same look and menu system as the website but also includes the common top navigation menu (see Figure 1).



Figure 1

Like the website the *Victorian Essential Learning Standards* is structured into eight parts. These are Home, Introduction to the Standards, P–10 Curriculum and Standards, Assessment, Stages of Learning, Reporting to Parents, Support Materials, Links and Downloads. These parts can be accessed by selecting them from the Victorian Essential Learning Standards top navigation menu.

When you select an area from the Victorian Essential Learning Standards top navigation menu, a corresponding left navigation menu with subsidiary menu items appears on the left side of the screen. In some cases these menu items expand to reveal further menu items (see Figure 2).

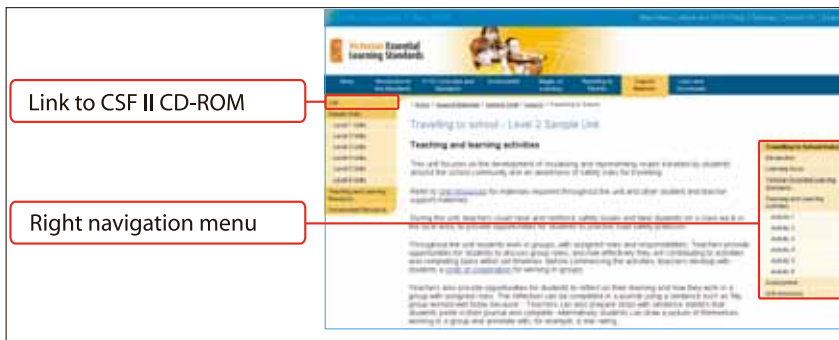


Figure 2

A right navigation menu is introduced in the Sample Units in the *Victorian Essential Learning Standards*. The right navigation menu acts as a quick-find index within specific sample units (see Figure 2 above).

Blueprint for Government Schools



Figure 3

Some sections of the DVD include material from the Student Learning pages on the *Blueprint for Government Schools* website including the Curriculum Planning Guidelines, Principles of Learning and Teaching, and links to Assessment and Reporting and the Knowledge Bank. These pages all look similar and have a common menu system consistent with the Blueprint website but also include the DVD top navigation menu (see Figure 3).

Curriculum and Standards Framework (CSF) II

During 2005 Victorian schools will continue to use the Curriculum and Standards Framework (CSF) II as the basis for their teaching, learning and assessment programs and reporting to parents and the relevant system.

For the first time the CSF II CD-ROM and all associated support materials such as annotated work samples which illustrate the CSF II standards, assessment tasks and sample units are available in a single resource. It is accessed via the Victorian Essential Learning Standards support materials section (see Figure 2).

Sample Units

An additional *Victorian Essential Learning Standards* sample unit is available on the DVD and online at <<http://vels.vcaa.vic.edu.au/support/level4/index.html>>. The Level 4 Unit – *In the news* provides learning focus related to all three strands in the Standards. A small number of additional units will be progressively published online throughout 2005.

Updated information regarding the development and distribution of the Student Learning DVD will be provided in the ‘What’s New’ and ‘Important Information’ sections of the Standards website at <http://vels.vcaa.vic.edu.au/>

AIM Equating Study 2005

The VCAA is currently inviting selected schools to participate in the Equating Study for the AIM Years 3, 5 and 7 State-wide English and Mathematics Tests.

One of the measurement tasks associated with the implementation of the 2005 AIM program is the administration of a sample study which is used to determine the relative difficulty of the 2005 tests to previous years' tests. The study helps the VCAA compare the difficulty of the annual tests to ensure the accuracy of school and student data.

This year the Year 3 students will complete the 1999 AIM Test Booklets, the Year 5 students will complete the 2000 AIM Test Booklets while the Year 7 students will complete the 2002 AIM Test Booklets. The Equating Study tests are sat under the same standard test conditions as the 2005 AIM tests.

The 2005 Equating Study will be administered between Wednesday 13 July and Friday 15 July 2005. The VCAA will provide participating schools with all materials required and

schools will not incur any additional costs.

Students will be issued with an individual certificate of participation together with their results. Participation in the study also provides students with a chance to become more familiar with the test format and tasks required to demonstrate their achievement in the 2005 AIM test program.

Schools wishing to participate in the 2005 Equating Study should contact Alex Lachowicz on (03) 9651 4336 or email lachowicz.alexander.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

AIM 2005 Principals' Guide - Administration

The principals' package for the 2005 AIM August Testing Program is due to be distributed to schools in the week beginning 16 May. This is being provided in advance of the testing materials.

The package contains:

- Agreement between the VCAA and the School
- Information for Parents brochure
- *AIM 2005 Principals' Guide - Administration*
 - timetable for the 2005 AIM August testing program

Years 3, 5 and 7 pencil and paper tests and AIM Online Year 7 tests:

- advice to principals about preparation for August tests
- guidelines for administration of tests under standard conditions
- forms for requesting extra materials, large print and/or Braille copies of test materials
- a form for the registration for exemptions from sitting the tests.

Please note that principals are required to complete the Agreement with the VCAA for the security of test materials and standard conditions for the conduct of the AIM testing program. This Agreement is to be signed and faxed back to the VCAA on (03) 9651 4612 no later than Monday 25 July 2005.

AIM Student Personal Details data file transfer

At the time of going to press, all schools, (with the exception of those schools in the Catholic sector) should have submitted their student personal details data file to the VCAA. An email has been sent back to each school, listing the students that were included in the file together with their personal details. Catholic schools

should also have received such an email.

If a school has not received the email containing the above details, they should contact the VCAA as soon as possible on one of the telephone numbers listed below.

If modifications to a student's personal details are required, or a

student needs to be added or deleted, the school should send the details of the modification via email to [aim.student.data@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:<aim.student.data@edumail.vic.gov.au>) as soon as possible.

For enquiries about AIM pre-enrolment and reporting student background characteristics, telephone (03) 9651 4472 or 1800 820 122.

AIM Teacher Assessed Writing Task

Marking (Years 3 and 5 only)

In addition to the marking criteria, the *AIM Schools' Guide – Implementation* contains samples of students' writing from level 1 to level 5 which illustrate the levels students can be expected to achieve in each of the two categories of *Texts and Contextual understanding* and *Linguistic structures and features*. These samples are provided to give guidance to teachers when marking the Teacher Assessed Writing Task.

The samples are annotated with marks and explanations included at the end of each example. Further samples without annotation are included to enable teachers to practise marking the writing tasks.

Due to increased demand for further samples of students' writing, we have developed a resource – *Annotated Samples of Student Writing* – to be published on the AIM

website. This resource will contain approximately 30 samples of writing covering CSF levels 1 to 5 with approximately six samples per level. These will be available on the website in July 2005.

Four annotated samples of students' writing and two without annotation will continue to be published in hard copy in the *Schools' Guide – Implementation*.

Let the Games Begin!

During Term 2 2005 *Let the Games Begin! Middle Years Resources* will be distributed to all schools. This is the third of five curriculum resources being developed by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) as part of the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Education Program.

The Games provide a platform for exploring the ethical decision-making and organisational processes associated with hosting a major event.

Let the Games Begin! Middle Years Resources contains three sections.

- **Hosting a Major Event** – This unit provides an opportunity for students to learn about hosting a major event by investigating Melbourne's hosting of the 2006 Commonwealth Games. This resource supports students in conceptualising, planning and organising their own sporting, cultural or environmental event.
- **A Fair Go: Ethics and Sport** – This is a teacher facilitated unit where

students are provided with a model and resources for exploring ethical decisions associated with sporting events such as the Commonwealth Games.

- **Student Resources** – This section contains organisational information about the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games. These resources support the two units contained on this CD-ROM or can be used by students independently.

Let the Games Begin! Middle Years Resources contains resources and activities that cater for students in Years 5 to 10. There are a number of pathways for progressing through each unit providing flexibility for teachers to tailor material to meet the needs of their students.

The first Games related resource, *Starting Blocks*, was distributed in Term 1 2005 as part of the 'Getting Schools Involved' kit for students from Prep to Year 12. The second, a *Post-compulsory*



resource: for VCE/VET in Schools/VCAL, was also recently distributed.

More information on *Let the Games Begin! Middle Years Resources* and other resources can be found by visiting the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Education Program at www.melbourne2006.com.au/education

This P-10 Supplement is an adjunct of the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) Bulletin. The VCAA BULLETIN is a monthly publication (excluding January) carrying information and administrative advice about the Victorian Certificate of Education and the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning.

For subscriptions to the VCAA BULLETIN go to: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/correspondence/bulletins/bullsubscription.html

The VCAA BULLETIN and Supplements are also available online at: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au

Victorian schools only may photocopy this publication for use by teachers and students.

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