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Proudly supporting homeschoolers across Australia

Planning for Secondary Study (Stages 4 and 5) in NSW - v2020.04.06

In [Stage 4](#) and [Stage 5](#), students must study all four of these Key Learning Areas:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science and
- Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE)

Students must also study at least two of these:

- Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE)
- Creative Arts
- Languages
- Technology

Some of these Key Learning Areas have options within them.

HSIE generally includes History and/or Geography, however HSIE may instead be covered by studying Commerce, Aboriginal Studies, or Work Education.

Creative Arts may be covered by studying any of the following - Dance, Drama, Music, Photographic and Digital Media, Visual Arts, or Visual Design. You can study more than one, or change between these during the registration period.

PDHPE can include Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) or Child Studies or Physical Activity and Sports Studies.

Technology can include Agricultural Technology, Design and Technology, Food Technology, Graphics Technology, Industrial Technology, Information and Software Technology, Marine and Aquaculture Technology, Textiles Technology, or Technology



(Mandatory) (Note: Although the name of the syllabus has the word “mandatory”, it is not mandatory for home educated children to study this syllabus).

Separate Syllabuses are available for each of these options within the KLAs.

There is also the option of covering the Syllabus using **Life Skills Outcomes**, which are for students with special needs - it is up to the parent to assess if Life Skills are most appropriate for the particular student.

The information and links to the Syllabuses are at this link on the homeschooling page of the NESAs website in the [Guidelines for Home Schooling Registration in NSW](#), from page 23. There is much more flexibility with homeschooling. Home educators are not compelled to follow the content of the Syllabus, and can choose Stage Statements from different Stages. For example, a student may not do Design and Technology until Stage 5 at school, but there is nothing stopping us from doing it as part of a secondary program for homeschooling, while they are still doing Stage 4 in other KLAs.

In summary

You must cover all of the following core Key Learning Areas (KLAs):

English,
Maths,
Science, and
HSIE - choosing one or more from History, Geography, Work Education, Aboriginal Studies, or Commerce.

You must choose at least two from the following (must be from two different elective KLAs)

Languages,
PDHPE - choose one or more from Personal Development, Health and Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sports Studies, Child Studies,
Creative Arts - choose one or more from Drama, Dance, Visual Arts, Photographic and Digital Media, Visual Design
Technologies - choose one or more from Technology Mandatory (this is not mandatory for homeschoolers), Agricultural Technology, Design and Technology, Food Technology, Graphics Technology, Industrial Technology, Information and Software Technology, Marine and Aquaculture Technology, Textiles Technology

Some of the Stage Statements are available at this link:

[NESAs Stage Statements and Outcomes Programming Tool](#)

Others are also on the NESAs website:

- [Stage 4 \(Years 7–8\)](#)
- [Stage 5 \(Years 9–10\)](#)