Nauru Curriculum Footpath

pathway to quality education
Our Footpath Destination

Our students leave school as confident citizens able to live in and contribute to both Nauru society and a complex, global, networked society.

Our Curriculum provides the Framework to achieve this.
Curriculum Defined

- The Content and the learning Processes that a student will encounter as they go through the Nauru Education and Training system
- The Pedagogy – strategies that teachers use to help students LEARN (emphasis on student learning – not teacher teaching)
- The Assessment system – the way in which we measure how well a student has demonstrated Learning
- The Reporting System – the way in which we use the Assessment measures to award levels of certification
FOOTPATH

Education strategic Plan for Nauru

- Published in late 2004 after extensive education and community consultation to ensure Nauruan influence and ownership
- Outlined a vision for Nauru education
- Adapted a theory of Education published by Alan Luke and others.
- An integrated package of content and processes, associated pedagogy, assessment and reporting
- Package referred to NeatRP (Nauru Education and Training Reform Package)
Footpath

A Curriculum Framework for Nauru

(This Paper contains the theoretical underpinnings of our Reforms, explanations of Terms used, Timetable for Reform and references.

It is available from the Education Department, at cost.)

Paper Number 2 of Nauru Education and Training Reform Package (NeatRP)
Beginnings

- January 2005 workshop for all teachers to explore how a task based curriculum worked
- Looked to keep the best of present system
- Considered ways to develop a task based Nauruan curriculum to improve on what is
- Teachers wrote and tried teacher practice tasks.
Nauru Curriculum Framework

Nauru Curriculum Footpath
What we teach

Nauru Pedagogies
How we teach

Nauru Curriculum Framework Project

Nauru Rich Tasks
How students learn and show what they can do
Nauru Curriculum
Footpath
What we teach
Nauru Curriculum Footpath

What we teach

- Captured by 4 Pathways, which contain 17 short statements.
- States what Nauru education promises Nauru students
- Is what makes the curriculum uniquely Nauruan
- An early draft follows
Personal Pathways

*Who am I, where do I belong, where am I going?*

- Living in a contemporary Nauruan community and preparing for its changes
- Demonstrating confidence, commitment and accepting responsibility for decision making and problem solving
- Taking care of health and self
- Learning to learn through creatively using resources and learning strategies
- Learning to work in new ways and creating new opportunities
- Working with peers and others
Communication Pathways

How do I make sense of and communicate with others at home and abroad?

- Mastering literacy including the primary language
- Mastering numeracy
- Communicate knowledge and argument to a diverse audience
- Communicating using languages and intercultural understandings
Community Pathways

*What are my rights and responsibilities acting as a local, national and international community member?*

- Fostering identity, belonging and unity
- Respecting diversity and different ways of thinking
- Thinking and acting as an agent of change in local, regional and global communities while sustaining culture and identity
- Understanding local and global economic and political forces
Environment & Technology Pathways

How do I understand, impact, use and shape the world around me?

- Applying scientific, mathematical and technological understandings
- Understanding and sustaining environments
- Creating and working with design, agricultural, digital and engineering technologies
Nauru Rich Tasks

How students learn and show what they can do
Nauru Rich Tasks

- Nauru Rich Tasks began as Teacher Practice Tasks where teachers learnt to write and use tasks to organise the curriculum content, assessment and reporting
Developing Rich Tasks

- Nauruan teachers developed ideas for tasks and began to write rich tasks
- Consultants helped tasks meet international standards
- Together we are building sets of Rich Tasks to organise the curriculum
Nauru Rich Tasks

How students learn and show what they can do

Teacher Practice Tasks

Nauru Teacher Tasks

Rich Task Review Committee

Student suggestions

Nauru Community tasks

Nauru Government tasks

Consultant suggestions

Queensland Rich Tasks as a model

Some Queensland Rich Tasks as an international standard
Rich Tasks are …

- Learning and assessment tools
- Students learn in one context, practice in another and show the world they can do it in a Rich Task
- At present Nauru uses one or two Rich Tasks each term that are set by the National Curriculum Team
- There may be more or less choice in the future
Standards

- Rich Tasks have Quality Standards built into them
- The National Moderation Team is responsible for sharing those standards across all schools
Standards exist when …

There are

- words to describe the standard
- Student work that matches the standard

AND

- Agreement between the judges of student work that the student work matches the standard

Comparable standards live in this agreement
National Curriculum Team

- Develops writing skills so they can write new tasks of international standard
- Review current tasks for balance across many curriculum aspects
- Evaluate tasks that have been used and rewrite as needed
- Select National suites of tasks for Infants, Lower, Middle and Upper Primary, Lower and Upper Secondary
Balance includes ...

Making sure that the curriculum has a balance of
- Nauru Curriculum Footpath elements
- Literacy, numeracy, design, technology,
  performance, thinking skills, research skills and
  team work
- Gender balance
- Gardiner’s Multiple Intelligences
- Traditional “Subject” content
Curriculum is much more than subjects.

Carefully selected Rich Tasks balance the curriculum across ALL important areas.
National Moderation Team

- Develop skills in moderating student work to raise and sustain high standards
- Identify and share exemplary student work
- Help teachers understand the intent of the rich Tasks they are to implement
- Help develop ways to award scholarships and awards to top performing students
- Work with schools to apply agreed standards to all student work
CASE...

- Monitor the accuracy of schools applying moderated standards to all students (late 2006 once schools have developed the skills)
- Collect and analyse data on student grades to identify strengths and weaknesses and suggest priority areas for improvement
- Support the work of National Curriculum and Moderation Teams
The Nauru Curriculum Project..

- Organises the curriculum content and processes through Rich Tasks
- Sets high standards for student work
- Uses a moderation system to make sure those standards are sustained
- Balances ALL areas of learning not just subjects
- Ensures a Nauruan focused education system
- Is intellectually demanding while connected to the world

A first!
Next ...

- Focus on Pedagogy through
- Teacher diaries
- Sharing good task planning
- Unit Planning processes revisited
- Nauru Pedagogies Project