

Literacy and Numeracy **Fact sheet**

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Supporting your teenager in Years 10 to 12



Literacy and numeracy are essential skills that young people need to succeed in their everyday lives. As a parent or carer, you will have already made a significant contribution to supporting your teenager's learning from an early age through to their teenage years.

Young people have more opportunities than ever before to plan for their education and future career. They can gain recognition for a broad range of achievement through flexible pathways including school subjects, TAFE courses, school-based apprenticeships and traineeships, university subjects, job readiness programs and structured work placements, community projects and work.

It is critical for you, as a parent or carer, to continue to play an active role in helping to develop your teenager's literacy and numeracy so they can achieve the best possible outcomes and have every chance for the future.

Once your teenager reaches Year 10, they may be earning and learning while working towards achieving the Queensland Certificate of Education or the Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement. They will need to understand and use new forms of communication as they take on different roles in life and work.

The skills of learning, reading, writing, oral communication and numeracy are essential for young people to participate in our society. Your teenager will be developing communication skills for expressing themselves and defining their goals, for carrying out tasks, for using tools and technology, and for interacting in groups, organisations and the wider community.

Your vital role as a parent or carer

Ensuring that your teenager feels confident talking to you, their teachers, career advisers, trainers or employers about school work and training will enhance their opportunity to thrive in the 21st century. Your conversations may cover a wide range of contexts such as school work and assessment, training and employment contracts and conditions, and managing time and money.



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What literacy and numeracy skills will your teenager learn in Years 10 to 12?

The literacy and numeracy work students do in Years 10 to 12 will relate more to a specific context across a broad range of work and study options. It will involve, for example:

- applying mathematics skills in new contexts such as:
 - analysing data to inform decision making
 - deciding to estimate or calculate an answer depending on the purpose
 - calculating dimensions and quantities of materials in vocational tasks such as construction or hospitality.
- selecting, sequencing and evaluating information to understand texts and to communicate with other people
- using particular communication skills needed to effectively participate in the workplace such as industry terms and customer service

In order to obtain a Queensland Certificate of Education, your teenager will need to meet the required Queensland Studies Authority literacy and numeracy standards outlined at www.qsa.qld.edu.au/certificates/3054.html

If you have any questions or concerns about your teenager's level of literacy or numeracy please contact their teacher.

Activities to do with your teenager

You can help your teenager continue to develop literacy and numeracy skills by:

- working with them to develop a timetable to ensure a balance of study and work commitments, home life and social activities
- looking together at numerical information, statistics and data in newspapers and thinking critically about the author's purpose
- discussing time-management skills such as planning and setting priorities
- talking about household bills, such as telephone, electricity and rates — analysing graphs and discuss costs and ways to reduce energy consumption
- comparing the cost and value of various mobile phone plans and providers to find the most economical option based on call costs, calling patterns, your teenager's phone usage and analysing previous bills
- discussing why a filmmaker may have created a movie in a certain way — what was the purpose, who was the intended audience and what points of view or values were conveyed? Talking about language choices and why characters are depicted in certain ways
- helping them develop and implement their Senior Education and Training (SET) Plan. For more information about SET Plans visit www.education.qld.gov.au/etrf/setp.html
- encouraging them to monitor their progress towards attaining a Queensland Certificate of Education or Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement by checking their online learning account through the Queensland Studies Authority's Career Information Service website at www.qsa.qld.edu.au/certificates/3169.html

For more information about how you can help your teenager with literacy and numeracy visit www.education.qld.gov.au/parents/map or contact their teacher or school.