



# K-4 Initiatives Fact sheet

## Curriculum Support and Professional Learning for K–12 English teachers in NSW

The main focus of K-4 Initiatives is to manage the development, implementation and evaluation of key government initiatives, including *Best Start*.

### K-4 Initiatives

We are responsible for managing key government initiatives and specified projects within the early years of schooling by

- managing the development and assuring the quality of professional development, assessment and curriculum support programs and materials in both print and electronic form to support quality teaching and learning
- working with other state office directorates, regions and schools to ensure state-wide availability of professional support and curriculum
- providing operational support to regions and schools
- providing strategic advice on state and national issues, state level planning, coordination and reporting, consulting and liaising with universities stakeholder groups and professional associations.

### Best Start

- managing early planning around the 2008 rollout including:
  - preparation of early advice for Senior Officers, regions, stakeholders and other government departments
  - preparation of budgetary analysis
  - identification of aspects of literacy and numeracy to be assessed
  - development of *Best Start* Communication Plan

- co-ordination and conduct of the *Best Start* Kindergarten Assessment Consultation Forum with over 70 internal and external stakeholders to consider what and how our youngest students will be assessed.

### Future directions

#### Best Start

- deliver on the Government's 2008 commitment to Best Start by managing
  - recruitment and training of ten regional *Best Start* assessment officers
  - selection of the more than 400 schools statewide to participate in *Best Start* Kindergarten Assessment processes
  - development, trialling and evaluation of Kindergarten Assessment tasks for literacy and numeracy
  - development of software to be provided for teachers' use to record assessment data and to develop learning plans that address individual learning needs
  - development of support materials and professional learning for Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 teachers
  - development of strategic advice and planning for implementation of the four year rollout of 120 FTE teaching positions for literacy and numeracy leaders to work in schools and clusters of schools.

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### Websites

<<http://www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/earlyyears/index.htm>>