



2 October, 2018

**Queensland Advocates for Arts Education (QAAE)  
Public communication regarding new QCE system implementation for the Arts.**

Recently, Ausdance QLD, ATOM QLD, ASME, Drama QLD and QATA (representing senior teachers of the Arts) met to collaboratively respond to concerns identified by members. Specific concern existed regarding the timelines for confirmation processes as communicated by QCAA in the last few months.

The upload of provisional results for IA2 and IA3 at Term 3, Week 6 in 2020 was of the greatest concern. Details of dates for Quality Assurance processes – Endorsement and Confirmation can be found at the following link:

[https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/downloads/senior/new\\_snr\\_sb\\_assess\\_calendar\\_2020\\_cohort.pdf](https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/downloads/senior/new_snr_sb_assess_calendar_2020_cohort.pdf)

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, QAAE wrote to QCAA to inform them of teachers concerns regarding Confirmation events and how these may compromise the delivery of the new QCE Arts syllabuses.

The main points of the letter are summarised here:

- A lack of process differentiation between subjects with 75% internal assessment and 50% internal assessment
- Changed parameters of teaching time.
- Significant numbers of students, teachers and schools affected
- Difficulty in ensuring the development of skills and processes required in Units 1 and 2 moving into mastery in Units 3 and 4
- The confirmation timeline putting undue emphasis on the 25% external exam and disrupting the balance of assessment
- Student workload, anxiety and well-being.

In response to this letter, Chris Rider (Chief Executive Officer QCAA) , Jacqui Wilton (Director, Curriculum Services Division), Leanne Rolph (Assistant Director, Quality Assurance Branch) and Mahoney Archer (Arts Manager) met with QAAE representatives on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> August.

In this meeting, QAAE were given an opportunity to communicate the details of the concerns from the perspectives of all five Arts subject areas. There was a genuine acknowledgment from QCAA regarding these points of concern; however, QCAA were not able to adjust the dates for the upload of provisional results for confirmation for 2020.

Chris Rider and Jacqui Wilton shared with QAAE, many key influences for decision making including stakeholder advice from schooling sectors, school leaders, teachers, parents and the community. One key piece of advice that had been communicated to them was that stakeholders wished for students to have confirmed results for all internal assessments before sitting their external exams.

Additionally, they stressed the importance of ensuring the success of the confirmation and endorsement of internal assessments in the first year of the new QCE system. QCAA must ensure that there is appropriate time for quality assurance to occur and for possible appeals. If these processes are compromised through insufficient time to complete them, then there is a risk to the practice of internal assessment.

There was an indication from Chris Rider and Jacqui Wilton that the timelines for 2020 would not necessarily be fixed for all future Confirmation events.

Jacqui Wilton stated that a future system would ideally be more responsive, where schools could upload results when ready and we wouldn't all be held to the same timeline. In the first year of implementation Confirmation events will all be face to face meetings.

They encouraged continued feedback regarding the implementation of the new syllabuses and quality assurance processes beyond 2020 to continually improve these for schools, teachers and students.

QAAE acknowledged and appreciated the time afforded by QCAA to meet and to accept that feedback from the Arts sector.

Further meetings with Chris Rider have been scheduled for later this year, and beyond the first implementation year to communicate about the issues that are impacting teachers of the Arts in schools.

QAAE encourage members of each Arts association, ATOM QLD, ASME, Drama QLD, AusDance and QATA to continue to provide feedback to their executives about the implementation of the new syllabuses and quality assurance processes. Additionally, it is essentially important that Arts teachers are advocating for their subjects by communicating clearly to their schools what they need and how they can best support Arts students given these existing parameters.

Sincerely,

Queensland Advocates for Arts Education

Moneth Montemayor – ATOM, Dana Holden – Drama QLD, Helen Mullins – Ausdance QLD, Katy Ward – QATA, Shane Tooley - ASME