Rationale
In an increasingly complex, sedentary and rapidly changing world it is critical for every young Australian to not only be able to cope with life’s challenges but also to flourish as healthy, safe and active citizens in the 21st century. This is a strong investment in the future of the Australian population.

Technology is continuing to influence our way of life and health issues will endure while new ones will emerge. New forms of physical activity will become available. Students need critical inquiry skills to research and analyse knowledge and to understand the influences on their own and others’ health, safety, wellbeing and physical activity participation. They also need to be resilient, to develop empathy and to be actively engaged in their own and others’ wellbeing. Using, health, safety and physical activity resources for the benefit of themselves and their communities.

In Health and Physical Education, students develop the skills, knowledge, and understanding to strengthen their sense of self, and build and manage satisfying, respectful relationships. They learn to build on personal and community strengths and assets to enhance safety and wellbeing. They critique and challenge assumptions and stereotypes. Students learn to navigate a range of health-related services, sources and organisations.

At the heart of Health and Physical Education is the acquisition of movement skills and concepts enabling students to participate in a range of physical activities – confidently, competently and creatively. As a foundation for lifelong physical activity participation and enhanced performance, students acquire an understanding of how the body moves and develop positive attitudes towards physical activity participation. They develop an appreciation of the significance of physical activity, outdoor recreation and sport in Australian society and globally. Movement is a powerful medium for learning, through which students can practice and refine personal, behavioural, social and cognitive skills.

Health and Physical Education provides students with an experiential curriculum that is contemporary, relevant, challenging and physically active.

Aims
The Australian Curriculum: Health and Physical Education (F–10) aims to develop the knowledge, understanding and skills to enable students to:
- access, evaluate and synthesise information to take positive action to protect, enhance and advocate for their own and others’ health, wellbeing, safety and physical activity participation across their lifespan
- develop and use personal, behavioural, social and cognitive skills and strategies to promote a sense of personal identity and wellbeing and to build and manage respectful relationships
- acquire, apply and evaluate movement skills, concepts and strategies to respond confidently, competently and creatively in a variety of physical activity contexts and settings
- engage in and enjoy regular movement-based learning experiences and understand and appreciate their significance to personal, social, cultural, environmental and health practices and outcomes
- analyse how varied and changing personal and contextual factors shape understanding of, and opportunities for, health and physical activity locally, regionally and globally.

Key Ideas
Health and Physical Education propositions
The Australian Curriculum: Health and Physical Education has been shaped by five interrelated propositions that are informed by a strong and diverse research base for a futures-oriented curriculum:

1. **Focus on educational purposes**
   - The Health and Physical Education curriculum is designed to progress and develop young people’s knowledge, understanding and skills from underpinning health and physical education to more complex learning opportunities.
   - Although the curriculum may contribute to a range of goals that sit beyond its own educational purpose, prioritising the capacity for the Health and Physical Education curriculum to provide ongoing, developmentally appropriate and explicit learning about health and movement. The Health and Physical Education curriculum draws on real-world issues to ensure that students are prepared with the learning opportunities to practice, create, apply and evaluate the knowledge, understanding and skills of the learning area.

2. **Take a strengths-based approach**
   - The Australian Curriculum: Health and Physical Education curriculum is informed by a strengths-based approach.
   - Rather than focusing either on potential health risks or a deficit-based model of health, the curriculum has a stronger focus on supporting students to develop the knowledge, understanding and skills they require to make healthy, safe and active choices for their own and others’ health and wellbeing.

3. **Value movement**
   - Health and Physical Education is the key learning area in the curriculum that focuses explicitly on developing movement skills and concepts students need to participate in physical activity with confidence and competence. The knowledge, understanding, skills and dispositions students develop during movement in Health and Physical Education encourage ongoing participation across their lifespan and in turn lead to positive health outcomes. Movement competence and confidence are seen as an important personal and community asset to be developed, maintained and valued.

4. **Develop health literacy**
   - Health literacy can be understood as an individual’s ability to gain access to, understand and use health information and services in ways that promote and maintain health and wellbeing.

5. **Rationale**
   - By the end of Year 8, students evaluate strategies and resources to manage changes and transitions and investigate their impact on others. Students evaluate the impact on wellbeing of relationships and valuing diversity. They analyse factors that influence emotional responses.

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Being healthy, safe and active
The content focuses on supporting students to make decisions about their own health, safety and wellbeing. It develops the knowledge, understanding and skills to support students to be resilient. It enables them to access and understand health information and empowers them to make healthy, safe and active choices. In addition, the content explores personal identities and emotions, and the contextual factors that influence students’ health, safety and wellbeing. Students also learn about the behavioural aspects related to regular physical activity and develop the dispositions needed to be active individuals.

Communicating and interacting for health and wellbeing
The content develops knowledge, understanding and skills to enable students to critically engage with a range of health focus areas and issues. It also helps them apply new information to changing circumstances and environments that influence their own and others’ health, safety and wellbeing.

Contributing to healthy and active communities
The content develops knowledge, understanding and skills to enable students to critically analyse contextual factors that influence the health and wellbeing of communities. The content supports students to selectively access information, products, services and environments to take action to promote the health and wellbeing of their communities.

Moving our body
The content lays the important early foundations of play and fundamental movement skills. It focuses on the acquisition and refinement of a broad range of movement skills. Students apply movement concepts and strategies to enhance performance and move with competence and confidence. Students develop skills and dispositions necessary for lifelong participation in physical activities.

Understanding movement
The content focuses on developing knowledge and understanding about how and why our body moves and what happens to our body when it moves. While participating in physical activities, students analyse and evaluate theories, techniques and strategies that can be used to understand and enhance the quality of movement and physical activity performance. They explore the place and meaning of physical activity, outdoor recreation and sport in their own lives, and across time and cultures.

Learning through movement
The content focuses on personal and social skills that can be developed through participation in movement and physical activities. These skills include communication, decision-making, problem-solving, critical and creative thinking, and cooperation. The skills can be developed as students work individually and in small groups or teams to perform movement tasks or solve movement challenges. Through movement experiences, students develop other important personal and social skills such as self-awareness, self-management, persisting with challenges and striving for enhanced performance. They also experience the varied roles within organised sport and recreation.

Focus areas
The 12 focus areas provide the breadth of learning across Foundation to Year 10 that must be taught for students to acquire and demonstrate the knowledge, understanding and skills described in the achievement standard for each band of learning. The focus areas have been mapped to each content description and elaboration (annotations included in brackets) to assist teachers in their planning. Descriptions of each of the focus areas and the learning expected in each can be accessed through hyperlinks from the focus area annotations after each elaboration.

Advice on appropriate timing for addressing each focus area is provided in the band descriptions. It is expected that the focus areas identified in each band description will contribute substantially to the Health and Physical Education teaching and learning program for the relevant band of learning. Decisions about the specific timing of when each focus area will be taught within the two-year band (for example, whether to teach about safety in Year 3 or Year 4 or in both years) are the responsibility of schools. Planning decisions should take into account local needs, available resources, students’ readiness and community priorities.

Same-sex attracted and gender-diverse students
As with other areas of student diversity, it is crucial to acknowledge and affirm diversity in relation to sexuality and gender in Health and Physical Education. Inclusive Health and Physical Education programs which affirm sexuality and gender diversity acknowledge the impact of diversity on students’ social worlds, acknowledge and respond to the needs of all students, and provide more meaningful and relevant learning opportunities for all students.

The Australian Curriculum: Health and Physical Education (F–10) is designed to allow schools flexibility to meet the learning needs of all young people, particularly in the health focus area of relationships and sexuality. All school communities have a responsibility when implementing the Health and Physical Education curriculum to ensure that teaching is inclusive and relevant to the lived experiences of all students. This is particularly important when teaching about reproduction and sexual health, to ensure that the needs of all students are met, including students who may be same-sex attracted, gender diverse or intersex.

Years 7 and 8 Content Descriptions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personal, Social and Community Health</th>
<th>Movement and Physical Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Being healthy, safe and active</strong></td>
<td><strong>Moving our body</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigate the impact of transition and change on identities. Evaluate strategies to manage personal, physical and social changes that occur as they grow older. Practise and apply strategies to seek help for themselves or others. Investigate and select strategies to promote health, safety and wellbeing.</td>
<td>Use feedback to improve body control and coordination when performing specialised movement skills in a variety of situations. Practise, apply and transfer movement concepts and strategies with and without equipment.</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Communicating and interacting for health and wellbeing</strong></td>
<td><strong>Understanding movement</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analyse factors that influence emotions, and develop strategies to demonstrate empathy and sensitivity. Evaluate health information and communicate their own and others’ health concerns.</td>
<td>Participate in physical activities that develop health-related and skill-related fitness components, and create and monitor personal fitness plans. Demonstrate and explain how the elements of effort, space, time, objects and people can enhance movement sequences. Participate in and investigate cultural and historical significance of a range of physical activities.</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Contributing to healthy and active communities</strong></td>
<td><strong>Learning through movement</strong></td>
</tr>
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<td>Plan and use health practices, behaviours and resources to enhance health, safety and wellbeing of their communities. Plan and implement strategies for connecting to natural and built environments to promote the health and wellbeing of their communities. Investigate the benefits to individuals and communities of valuing diversity and promoting inclusivity.</td>
<td>Practise and apply personal and social skills when undertaking a range of roles in physical activities. Evaluate and justify reasons for decisions and choices of action when solving movement challenges. Modify rules and scoring systems to allow for fair play, safety and inclusive participation.</td>
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