

1. Professional Knowledge

1.1 Teachers know their students

<p style="text-align: center;">Standards statement</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(Core descriptions of what accomplished teachers of English and Literacy believe, know and are able to do.)</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Key words & Focus questions</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(For reflection and discussion)</i></p>
<p>1.1 Teachers know their students</p> <p>Accomplished English/Literacy teachers recognise each student's uniqueness. They are aware of their students' diverse sociocultural, language and ethnic heritage and have specific knowledge of the community to which each student belongs, including the literacy practices of that community. They know each student's preferred learning style and linguistic and cognitive capabilities. They recognise and affirm each student's potential and achievements; they know their histories as learners and members of the school community.</p> <p>Accomplished English/Literacy teachers are sensitive to the individual dispositions of their students, the ways they interact with their peers, their engagement with schooling, their values and interests and their aspirations and ideals.</p>	<p>Insight</p> <p>How well does the teacher know the individual learner and his/her capabilities?</p> <p>Sensitivity</p> <p>How does the teacher demonstrate care and concern for students in a context of fostering their linguistic competence?</p> <p>Difference</p> <p>How well does the teacher know and understand the communities to which the students belong and their aspirations for their children?</p>