

# 1. Professional Knowledge

## 1.2 Teachers know their subject

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Standards statement</b></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;"><b>Key words &amp; Focus questions</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(For reflection and discussion)</i></p>
<p><b>1.2 Teachers know their subject</b></p> <p>Accomplished English/Literacy teachers have a broad, deep and critical knowledge and understanding of the academic discipline (or fields of knowledge) from which their subject and curriculum area are derived, including specialist knowledge relevant to the age ranges they teach. They know the history of their subject and understand the nature of and reasons for curriculum change. They have a comprehensive knowledge of current and relevant curriculum documents and courses of study.</p> <p>They are informed about contemporary issues and debates regarding language, literacy and literature and possess a critical understanding of recent theory and practice relevant to their field, including language acquisition, literacy learning and development, reader response and literary theory. They demonstrate high standards of performance in their own literacy practices and have a firm grasp of the application of new technologies in their field. They have a wide knowledge of different texts and types of texts, classic and contemporary literature (including poetry, fiction and drama), everyday texts, visual, media and electronic texts.</p>	<p><b>Rigour</b></p> <p>How comprehensively does the teacher understand the discipline, traditions and debates in English language and literature teaching?</p> <p><b>Ideology</b></p> <p>What ideas and values inform English/Literacy teaching?</p> <p><b>Justification</b></p> <p>How does the teacher justify the knowledge, skills and understandings he/she most values in the teaching and learning of language and literacy?</p>