



EDST8212

Teaching Primary English 4: Specialisation

Session 2, In person-scheduled-infrequent, North Ryde 2026

Macquarie School of Education

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Convenor, Lecturer, Tutor

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

EDST8208 and EDST8211

Corequisites

Co-badged status

EDST3200

Unit description

This unit focuses on deepening students' knowledge of a wide range of children's literature and other texts and an awareness of textual concepts. It investigates research-informed pedagogies for building primary school students' multimodal and critical literacy skills, enhancing their reading for pleasure and assisting them to understand and create texts. Attention is given developing reading aloud skills and to making quality text selections that will facilitate learning and enjoyment and meet students' individual needs in the classroom. It will examine and critique various textual forms and multimodal materials from different cultural, linguistic and social contexts and analyse how meaning is made through words, sounds and images. Students research and investigate the literary and textual resources of schools and libraries and review classroom reading practices and the role of storytelling in Primary English.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: Investigate, analyse and apply research-shaped understanding and scholarly knowledge of the role of literature and reading for pleasure in students' learning experiences in the Primary English classroom.

ULO2: Evaluate, critique and select children's literature and other texts for students, justified by current research and demonstrated disciplinary and syllabus knowledge.

ULO3: Apply knowledge of evidence-based pedagogical strategies to design engaging learning experiences across a range of textual modes with varied activities and effective differentiation for Primary students.

ULO4: Analyse and evaluate the textual concepts, forms and features of literary and other types of texts used for teaching Primary English students.

ULO5: Demonstrate effective personal competence in professional communication and in applying research-based knowledge and understanding by using a variety of language modes and technologies in creative, critical and reflexive ways.

General Assessment Information

General Submission Information

All written assessments must be submitted electronically. Please format assessments using 12-point font and 1.5 spacing. Submissions must meet the required file type and formatting specifications outlined in the assessment guidelines. If you are unsure about the file format or have technical difficulties, it is your responsibility to seek assistance before the submission

deadline. Students should be careful to check that they submit the correct file for an assessment as no re-submissions will be accepted after the due date and time, including instances where students upload an incorrect file. It is not the responsibility of unit staff to contact students who have failed to submit assessments. If you have any missing items of assessment, it is your responsibility to contact the unit convenor.

Turnitin plagiarism detection software is used to check all written assessments. It is the responsibility of all students to ensure that their submitted work is in a format compatible with Turnitin software for plagiarism checking. Students can use Turnitin's Originality Report as a learning tool to improve their academic writing if this option is made available in the unit.

Word limits are strictly applied, with + or - 10% applicable. Work above the word limit will not be marked.

Academic Integrity

Students should be aware of and apply the University policy on academic integrity (see: <https://policies.mq.edu.au/document/view.php?id=3>)

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

<https://students.mq.edu.au/study/assessment-exams/assessments/ai-and-assessment>

<https://policies.mq.edu.au/document/view.php?id=394>

Special Consideration / Late Penalties

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, **a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day to late submissions, up until the 7th calendar day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a mark of '0' (zero) will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted.** Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical issue.

Important to note:

- Late submission of time sensitive tasks (such as tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, scheduled practical assessments/labs) will be addressed by the unit convenor in a Special consideration application.
- Students should not request an informal arrangement from their tutor, lecturer or Unit Convenor (or equivalent).
- Where an application for Special Consideration is approved and the outcome is an extension to the due date of a task, submissions that are received after the new due date will be subject to late penalties that are calculated from the new due date. This only applies where the outcome is an extension to the due date – see the [Special Consideration Policy](#) for a schedule of all possible outcomes.

A Special Consideration outcome may result in a new question or topic.

Applications for extensions must be made via [Service Connect](#).

University Policy on Grading

Assignments will be awarded grades ranging from HD to F according to guidelines set out in the [University's Grading System](#) and [University Assessment Policy](#).

To attain a pass or higher grade in Professional Experience a student must obtain a satisfactory in both the Professional Experience component **and** a pass or higher grade in the academic component. For Professional Experience units the Professional Experience Evaluation Report is marked as Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory. The Macquarie Teaching Performance Assessment (MQTPA - in final WIL/PEx units) is marked as Not met, Met or Exceeds.

Results

Results shown in iLearn, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed because they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit [Service Connect](#).

Withdrawing from this unit

If you are considering withdrawing from this unit, please seek academic advice via [Service Connect](#) before doing so as this unit may be a co-requisite or prerequisite for units in the following sessions and may impact your course progression.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due	Groupwork/Individual	Short Extension	AI Approach
Professional exploration of Children's Literature	50%	No	29/09/2026	Individual	Yes	Open
Multimodal presentation of Children's Literature	50%	No	08/11/2026	Individual	Yes	Open

Professional exploration of Children's Literature

Assessment Type ¹: Professional task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 43 hours

Due: **29/09/2026**

Weighting: **50%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open

A research-based investigation of the selection and teaching of Children's Literature with a consideration of reading for pleasure.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Investigate, analyse and apply research-shaped understanding and scholarly knowledge of the role of literature and reading for pleasure in students' learning experiences in the Primary English classroom.
- Evaluate, critique and select children's literature and other texts for students, justified by current research and demonstrated disciplinary and syllabus knowledge.
- Apply knowledge of evidence-based pedagogical strategies to design engaging learning experiences across a range of textual modes with varied activities and effective differentiation for Primary students.
- Analyse and evaluate the textual concepts, forms and features of literary and other types of texts used for teaching Primary English students.
- Demonstrate effective personal competence in professional communication and in applying research-based knowledge and understanding by using a variety of language modes and technologies in creative, critical and reflexive ways.

Multimodal presentation of Children's Literature

Assessment Type ¹: Presentation task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 42 hours

Due: **08/11/2026**

Weighting: **50%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open

A multimodal presentation for teaching a selected text in a unit of work of literary and other texts in a Primary English classroom.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Investigate, analyse and apply research-shaped understanding and scholarly knowledge of the role of literature and reading for pleasure in students' learning experiences in the Primary English classroom.
- Evaluate, critique and select children's literature and other texts for students, justified by current research and demonstrated disciplinary and syllabus knowledge.
- Apply knowledge of evidence-based pedagogical strategies to design engaging learning experiences across a range of textual modes with varied activities and effective differentiation for Primary students.
- Analyse and evaluate the textual concepts, forms and features of literary and other types of texts used for teaching Primary English students.

- Demonstrate effective personal competence in professional communication and in applying research-based knowledge and understanding by using a variety of language modes and technologies in creative, critical and reflexive ways.

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- [Academic Success](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation.

³ An automatic short extension is available for some assessments. Apply through the [Service Connect Portal](#).

Delivery and Resources

Required and recommended texts

Required texts:

Callow, J. (2023 2nd edn). *The shape of text to come. How images, text and other modes work*. Primary English Teaching Association Australia.

ISBN 9781875622870

McDonald, L. (2023). *A literature companion for teachers* (3rd edn.). Primary English Teaching Association Australia.

Note please: both are published by the Primary English Teaching Association and if students join PETAA -which they can join for free- these 2 books are available for at discount.

There are prescribed peer reviewed articles as required readings in LEGANTO on iLearn (linked to the Library).

RECOMMENDED texts will be suggested and listed on iLearn in the Resources section

Information about the unit iLearn site

This unit has a full web presence through *iLearn*. Information for students about access to the online component of this unit is available at <https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/login/index.php>. You will need to enter your student username and password.

Regular access to iLearn is compulsory for all students. Important assessment information will be posted here, as will other relevant unit notices and materials, including a reading template and guide to lecture note taking to assist your studies.

Various activities and materials for discussion and critical reflection are included and you are encouraged to use this web component. Electronic links and suggested references will be

included in the Resources section.

The lectures are available on the web through the ECHO360 lecture component. You must listen to the relevant topic lectures before your workshop session.

Please do **NOT** contact the Unit Convenor regarding *iLearn* technical help especially for Task 2. **Allow enough time to create your video.**

Assistance is available from IT Helpdesk: via email onehelp@mq.edu.au or Ph: 9850 4357 or 1800 67 4357. On Campus: Ground floor at 18 Wally's Walk

Structure

See the university timetable for information about when classes begin in this unit. [Creating your timetable - Enrolling | Macquarie University, Sydney \(mq.edu.au\)](https://www.mq.edu.au/study/creating-your-timetable-enrolling)

EDST 8212 has recorded lectures on each Workshop focus, and oncampus blocks of 4 hour face to face workshops. There will be independent learning activities on line. Reading of children's literature is also expected.

In the workshops students will discuss issues and questions arising from the lectures and prescribed readings. They are expected to base their arguments/discussions on evidence from published research and other relevant material. There will be a supporting website for the unit providing additional readings, links and materials. Lectures will also be available through Echo in iLearn from the following website link: <http://ilearn.mq.edu.au>

Students are required to participate in small group activities, whole class discussion, to read the weekly material in advance, and to complete brief tasks either as individuals or in pairs. The program for EDST8212 with the accompanying lectures/ readings/ preparation is available on iLearn. Attendance is required.

Week 2/ 31: On-campus classes commence -students' attendance is required.

Unit Schedule

Unit Schedule

This Unit has the following required learning and expected attendance components:

- Lectures available online.
- The second week of session 2, commencing Monday 3rd August all classes commence on campus and attendance is required.
- Four workshops of 4 hours: **Attendance is required:** Weeks 31 and 32 (2 & 3), Week 40 (9 after recess) and Week 44 (13).
- **You cannot attend Professional Experience when your workshop is scheduled.**

EDST8212 is structured in 4 workshop Modules:

1. Reading for pleasure: Week 2
2. Words, sounds and images: Week 3

3. Many voices, many texts: Week 9
4. Creating and sharing stories: Week 13

A program with full details of the Modular workshop focus and the required lectures and readings is available on iLearn.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://policies.mq.edu.au) (<https://policies.mq.edu.au>). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies) (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central](https://policies.mq.edu.au) (<https://policies.mq.edu.au>) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit connect.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

School of Education Procedures

In addition, the following policies and procedures of the School of Education are applicable in this unit.

Academic Progression Policy

This unit is a part of a professional Course listed on Schedules 2 and 3 of the [Academic Progression Policy](#). This Course has additional requirements that are applicable for the full duration of the course, including course-specific Inherent Requirements, Fitness to Practice requirements and other compulsory Course requirements. It also has rigorous academic progression standards. Inability to meet these requirements may result in a withdrawal of offer of admission and/or permanent exclusion from the course in accordance with the General Coursework Rules.

Communication

It is the student's responsibility to check all electronic communication on a weekly basis. Communication may occur via:

- Official MQ Student Email Address
- The Dialogue function on iLearn
- Other iLearn communication functions

Attendance and Participation

See the University timetable for information about when classes begin in this unit. [Creating your timetable - Enrolling | Macquarie University, Sydney \(mq.edu.au\)](#)

There is an attendance requirement in this unit. Initial Teacher Education (ITE) degrees must ensure that teacher education students meet unit learning outcomes, course learning outcomes and the Graduate level of the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers. Since units are within an accredited ITE degree, Macquarie School of Education is required to demonstrate these outcomes and standards have been taught, practised and assessed. To meet 'taught, practiced and assessed' accreditation requirements, ITE units have mandatory attendance, with an expectation of **at least 80% attendance at tutorials**. Please see your unit iLearn site for details of how to meet attendance requirements in this unit.

The 4 workshop classes of 4 hours each are face to face on campus and start in Week 2 from Monday 3rd August - attendance is required.

Infrequent Attendance Students

Information about the dates of the on-campus sessions can be found in the university timetable. [Creating your timetable - Enrolling | Macquarie University, Sydney \(mq.edu.au\)](#)

The four on-campus sessions are essential to student engagement and learning and attendance is expected.

Prior to these on-campus sessions, students should have read the prescribed readings and

listened to the lectures, summarise the main points, and make notes of the key terms and definitions. Prepare any discussion questions of your own that you wish to share.

Please make effective use of the online component of the unit and access iLearn regularly. Keep up to date with listening to the lectures on a weekly basis.

Students are required to attend the workshop in which they are enrolled. Any changes to class enrolments must be completed officially through e-Student. Please do not contact the unit convenor to request a change.

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Academic Success

[Academic Success](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Ask a Study Coach](#)
- [Access StudyWISE](#)
- [Upload an assignment to Studiosity](#)
- [Complete the Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)
- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study
- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)
- [Student Advocacy](#) provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via the [Service Connect Portal](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/technology/service-desk>.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Changes from Previous Offering

The English Specialisation EDST8212 has been completely re-developed due to its 2026 timetabling as 4 blocks of 4 hour face to face workshops, whereas in previous years the unit was taught as 5 modules of 6 x 2 hourly classes and one on campus day.

New children's literature is regularly incorporated into the unit and lectures updated.

Unit information based on version 2026.02 of the [Handbook](#)