

## *Strategies for supporting EAL/D students in the mathematics classroom*

EAL/D students may be empowered through equitable teaching practices and critical numeracy.

Socially just or equitable teaching practices enable all students to have equitable opportunities to learn.

Teaching and learning resources are redistributed to provide equal access to learning opportunities.

Students are liberated through the recognition of their language and cultural background facilitating agency or the ability to address socio-political issues that concern them.

Students gain a voice that allows expression of individual opinions based upon numerical foundation

### Equitable Teaching Practices

<i>maintenance of home language</i>	<i>critical analysis of the curriculum</i>
<i>mixed-ability groups</i>	<i>numerical investigation of issues relevant to marginalised students</i>
<i>recognition of prior learning and experiences</i>	<i>problem-based learning</i>
<i>teacher involved in community</i>	<i>age-appropriate curriculum</i>
<i>develop cultural awareness and inclusivity</i>	<i>higher-order learning</i>
<i>inclusion of parents and community</i>	<i>high expectations</i>
<i>collaborative learning</i>	<i>communicative learning approach</i>

(Villegas & Lucas, 2002).

Critical numeracy is a social justice approach to teaching numeracy where all students, particularly marginalised students, are encouraged to challenge and change established social and political practices such as poverty, racism, sexism, classism, and hetero-sexism.

These objectives are achieved through the numerical analysis of issues that are relevant and important to the students' standing in society.

*The Australian Curriculum: Mathematics* general capabilities of Numeracy, Critical and Creative Thinking and Ethical Understanding can form the basis for critical numeracy topics encouraging analysis, postulating, and options for changing socio-political issues relevant to EAL/D students.

Critical numeracy utilises functional mathematics to enable the higher-order critique of relevant socio-political issues in order to bring about change to those issues.

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