



About the edna collection policy

The **edna** collection policy is a public statement that defines the scope of the edna collection and the criteria used to select the content accessible through edna. It is a guide for **edna** staff and external contributors, as well as all users. It outlines **edna**'s aim to select and evaluate online resources according to agreed policies, priorities and criteria. It makes explicit the rationale behind the inclusion or exclusion of content within **edna** and aims to ensure consistency of application.

What is edna?

edna (Education Network Australia) is a network of and for the Australian education and training community. As a joint initiative of the state and territory governments and the Australian Government, **edna** provides free access to news, events, learning resources, networks and online tools.

What does edna contain?

edna collects quality resources related to Australian curriculum, issues, policies and professional development. **edna** resources, news and events are high quality, evaluated online materials relevant to Australian education and training, that are freely available on the Internet in the public domain.

Who is the edna audience?

edna's audience is all members of the Australian education and training community, including educators, administrators, researchers, policymakers, information mediators, learners and parents. In government and non-government systems, sector audience groups are:

- Adult and Community Education (ACE)
- Early Childhood Education (ECE)
- Higher Education
- School Education
- Vocational Education and Training (VET)

edna principles



What are the priorities for edna?

edna's collection focuses on the following priority areas in Australian education:

- access and equity in education
- educational research and policy
- ICT in education
- indigenous education
- libraries and information management in education
- literacy and numeracy
- online communities
- professional learning and quality teaching
- technical standards
- transition and careers

What types of resources?

- resources
- news
- events
- groups
- lists
- organisations
- collections

What is edna's scope?

edna aims to be sufficiently comprehensive to cater for the full range of Australian education and training. **edna** does not attempt to collect all online resources available, but is a guide to high quality educational web-based Australian resources, and key international resources that are relevant to Australian education and training.

- **edna** aims to collect resources at a comprehensive level within the following areas:
- accredited Australian educational organisations
- publications produced by *education.au* or subsidiary projects
- Australian education portals

Language coverage

Only English language resources, or those with a major English-language component, are included in **edna**.

Geographic coverage

Resources are collected worldwide, with particular emphasis on a comprehensive coverage of Australian sites.

Chronological coverage

To maintain the currency of the site, selected resources should be of recent issue (that is produced or updated in the last five years), unless a resource is judged to be of core current significance in spite of its date of production.

How edna resources are collected?

- centrally by sector-based information officers
- externally in a range of ways:
 - suggestion by users via the website;
 - submission directly into the database by **edna** stakeholders with administrator rights;
 - harvesting of metadata records from external repositories.

Owners of other repositories also have the option of making their collections accessible to the **edna** repository through the use of the **edna** distributed search tool. This tool allows records from external repositories to be accessed and retrieved as part of an **edna** search.

Can I suggest resources?

Users are encouraged to suggest resources for inclusion in **edna**. If a suggestion is not accepted, an explanation will be given for the rejection, together with a reference to the Collection Policy and a recommendation made on improvement of the resource, if appropriate. There is an appeals and grievance process.

How is the collection maintained?

All records within **edna** are checked regularly and removed if they: are out of date, do not comply with the current collection policy or do not have a functioning URL.

Records that are no longer current may also be archived

edna content standards

Accessibility

Content should be accessible, readable, easy to use and navigate, and freely available to the public. Commercial content should be limited to recognised professional learning events. Advertising should not be prominent.

Authority

Content should be authoritative, predominantly from educational organisations, government agencies or from reputable groups and organisations focused on education and training.

Currency

Content should be of current interest to Australian educators, and cover new and emerging issues. Sites should include dates of publication and review to demonstrate updating occurs on a regular basis, and should contain working links to external sites.

Ethics and legality

Content should uphold social justice, equity and human rights principles, comply with copyright and legal regulations and conform to the **edna** code of practice.

Objectivity

Content should be objective, impartial and unprejudiced. Overall the balance of sites and resources included in **edna** should demonstrate a range of representative views and positions.

Reliability

Content should be free of error in terms of both site content and site performance, containing information that is reliable, correct and verifiable. The content should be well-written, well-maintained and functional.

Uniqueness

Content should be directly relevant to education and training in Australia, provide key education and training content and contain significant information that is not available from other sources.

edna code of practice

Contributions to **edna** should make a positive contribution to education and training foster constructive exchanges.

Contributions to **edna** should not:

- use obscene language
- harass, insult or attack others
- be defamatory
- involve or advocate illegal activities
- violate human rights
- contravene copyright laws
- display offensive and pornographic images
- harm or disturb users
- have depictions that condone or incite violence, particularly sexual violence
- portray any person in a demeaning manner