Transcript of Dr Kay Carroll – Historical skills

We have historical concepts which are overarching important concepts that are taught throughout the Stages 1, 2 and 3. But, in order to I guess allow students to see those concepts and how they fit together we need to actually be teaching historical skills. And these skills enable the students to engage with history, to manipulate, to look at things, to experience history. And the main historical skills that students will be grappling with, is the comprehension of sources, understanding I guess what makes a primary or a secondary source. Thinking about issues to do with sources such as bias or limitations or where there may be gaps or omissions; thinking about the perspectives. Perspectives is a really important historical skill to understand that there could be different perspectives, different conclusions. And when we see that in history we get the real richness of history and understand it that it's not just about one particular person's experience, it's multiple experiences and we're all a part of that. In terms of the other skills that history, the new syllabus in history will bring to us are to do with communication. And in particular the language of history using historical terms and concepts. And part of that is understanding there are particular names or ways that we might frame time or a context or a society or when we talk about particular individuals in history. We often use some of that language already. We might talk about the Gold Rush era and we can start to unpack that with more historical terms thinking about some of the things that were happening out on the diggings for example. So, putting those historical terms and concepts is another important part of the historical skills that students will need to engage with.

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