

NCEA Review and Maintenance Programme – 2026 updates

Review and maintenance work has been undertaken for all three levels of NZC NCEA for 2026. This pdf document contains the updated Achievement Standards for **Digital Technologies Level 1**. In January 2026 the NCEA website will be updated with these changes for Level 1, and the pdf version will be removed as it will no longer be necessary. For Levels 2 and 3, NZQA will update their website with the registered standards in December. For external assessment specifications, refer to the NZQA website.

Subject: Digital Technologies Level 1

Standard	What's changed?
AS1.4 92007	<p>Explanatory Note 1: updated for clarification and to indicate a completed design is required for this assessment.</p> <p>Explanatory Note 4: updated to clarify fitness for purpose in this Achievement Standard</p>

Achievement Standard

Subject Reference Digital Technologies 1.4

Title Design a digital technologies outcome

Level 1 **Credits** 5 **Assessment** External

Subfield Technology

Domain Digital Technologies

Status Approved **Status date** September 2025

Planned review date December 2028 **Date version published** December 2025

Purpose Statement

Students are able to design a digital technologies outcome.

Achievement Criteria

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design a digital technologies outcome 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refine a design for a digital technologies outcome 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate a design for a digital technologies outcome

Explanatory Notes

1 *Design a digital technologies outcome* involves:

- describing a need or opportunity, potential user(s), and requirements
- generating design ideas in the development of a completed design for a digital technologies outcome
- describing how the completed design addresses the need or opportunity and meets the identified requirements.

Refine a design for a digital technologies outcome involves:

- using feedback to make improvements to the design throughout the design process
- explaining how design decisions made during the design process improve the quality of the completed design for the digital technologies outcome.

Evaluate a design for a digital technologies outcome involves:

- justifying how fitness for purpose is demonstrated in the completed design for the digital technologies outcome.

- 2 As part of the evidence provided, students must include discussion of manaakitanga or kaitiakitanga in relation to the design or the design process.
- 3 A *completed design* communicates how a feasible digital technologies outcome could look and/or function. The design may be communicated using a range of methods.

Examples of methods include:

- sketches and diagrams
- mock-ups and models
- annotations and descriptions.

Design ideas can relate to aspects of the design, either independently, or in relation to other design ideas.

Examples include:

- visual elements such as colour schemes or layout
- functional elements such as interactivity
- technical elements such as data attributes, code structure, or component configuration.

Design decisions are deliberate choices made in relation to an aspect of the design.

- 4 For the purpose of this achievement standard, a completed design demonstrating *fitness for purpose* is one that effectively addresses the need or opportunity and the requirements of potential user(s) within an authentic issue or context.
- 5 Refer to the NCEA [glossary](#) for Māori, Pacific, and further subject-specific terms and concepts.
- 6 This achievement standard is derived from the Technology Learning Area at Level 6 of *The New Zealand Curriculum*: Learning Media, Ministry of Education, 2007.

Replacement Information

This achievement standard and AS92004-AS92006 replaced AS91877-AS91887.

Quality Assurance

- 1 Schools and institutions must have been granted consent to assess by NZQA before they can register credits from assessment against achievement standards.
- 2 Schools and institutions with consent to assess must engage with the moderation system that applies to those achievement standards.

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference 0233