

## **ACCELERATION IN THE BUSH**

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We have conducted a study on academic acceleration in regional and rural areas of NSW. Here we present our findings on the extent to which the various options of acceleration are implemented in public and independent schools. This will include specific data on acceleration in Mathematics (perceived to be more common than in other subjects), ICT (perceived to be student directed) and Science (a subject perhaps neglected in primary schools). We will highlight practice that is proving to be successful in this educational context. We will also explore equity issues concerning the impact that social disadvantage (isolation, rural background, low socio-economic status, and cultural minority status) has on gaining access to options of academic acceleration in regional and rural NSW.