

Investing in Community Languages Schools Fact Sheet

The NSW Government is providing an additional \$10.9 million to further build the capacity of the Community Languages Schools Program

Community Languages Schools Program

More than 34,000 New South Wales school aged students access out-of-school-hours community language classes to develop, maintain or acquire their home language.

On 20 May 2017, the Premier announced that an additional \$10.9 million will be provided to build the capacity of the Community Languages Schools Program.

This funding will increase the total investment in community languages through a combination of per capita funding, incentives and access to resources. These initiatives, combined with a bonus for eligible schools, represent a total investment that is the equivalent of \$210 per student in NSW over the next four years.

Partnership with Sydney University

The Department has entered into a partnership with Sydney University to deliver key elements of the initiative.

Under this partnership, Sydney University will establish the Sydney Institute for Community Languages Education to promote the uptake of community languages and engage with other tertiary institutions to increase the number of university trained language teachers.

High quality teaching and assessment resources

An online web portal will be available for community language teachers to access quality resources to support the teaching and assessment of language skills.

Additional K-10 language syllabuses will also be developed in the most commonly taught languages.

Professional learning opportunities for teachers

200 scholarships will be available each year for volunteer community language teachers to undertake professional learning at Sydney University. These scholarships will focus on strengthening teaching pedagogy.

New learning systems and support

A new online passport will track student progress in studying a language. Students will have a record of their learning achievements which can be used to demonstrate their level of proficiency.

An online learning management system will alleviate the administrative burden from Community Languages Schools. The system will record student and teacher data, including enrolment, participation and professional learning.

Additional Professional Officers will be employed for three years to support Community Languages Schools adopt the new system, and highlight the training and resources available for their teachers.

Additional funding directly to Community Languages Schools

Over \$2 million in incentive payments will be made directly to Community Languages Schools who adopt the new learning management system and meet professional learning and other targets.

For more information go to
<http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au/what-we-offer/community-programs>