

Friday, 10 November 2017

MORE SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

Young people learning a second language in a community language school will be given greater support under a new partnership between the NSW Government and the University of Sydney.

Premier Gladys Berejiklian today joined with Minister for Finance Victor Dominello and Minister for Multiculturalism Ray Williams to make the announcement, which will help more than 34,000 students' access out-of-school-hours community language classes.

"The NSW Government is partnering with a world leading university, and Australia's first university, to deliver the Community Languages Schools Program," Ms Berejiklian said.

"As a student of a community language school myself, I am so proud to be leading a Government committed to helping students keen to take on this extracurricular study."

Under the partnership with the NSW Government, the University of Sydney will:

- Provide teaching resources, learning activities and assessment tools;
- Streamline administration for enrolment and record student participation;
- Deliver professional learning scholarships for community language teachers;
- Provide learning passports to track students' learning progress.

"Learning a second language has so many benefits and this program provides the resources to give students the best chance to develop and learn. It will also allow community language schools to grow," Mr Williams said.

"In NSW we speak more than 200 languages and it is initiatives like this which will help us preserve that important part of our culture."

"This investment will position NSW as a leader and innovator in language education. This partnership will provide data allowing teachers and government to make better decisions in the future," Mr Dominello said.

Today's announcement follows the commitment earlier this year to invest an additional \$10.9 million in Community Language Schools to boost the number of students learning their community language.

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