



The Hon James Merlino MP

Deputy Premier  
Minister for Education

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Mr Stefan Romaniw  
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Dear Mr Romaniw

Stefan

Thank you for your email regarding languages education in Victorian schools. Your ongoing support for languages education is noted and appreciated.

The Education State sets out the Andrews Labor Government's commitment to support all students to reach their potential by giving them access to quality education regardless of their location, learning needs or backgrounds. This includes expanding and strengthening languages programs in Victorian schools.

Languages education is one of the eight learning areas that all Victorian schools are required to provide in order to meet the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006* minimum standards. As such, languages are part of the core/mandated curriculum all Victorian schools are required to provide.

Given the cognitive and other benefits of language learning in equipping children and young people to effectively participate in an increasingly interconnected, innovative and technological world, the Victorian Government will expand and strengthen languages education as part of our broader Education State reform agenda. I will be seeking input over the coming months from key stakeholders, including the Ethnic Schools Association of Victoria, on how best to achieve this.

If you would like further information, please contact Ms Therese Mercader, Manager, Languages Unit, Secondary Reform, Transitions and Priority Cohorts Division, Early Childhood and School Education Group, Department of Education and Training, on 9637 2197 or by email: [mercader.therese.t@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:mercader.therese.t@edumail.vic.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

1.12.15

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