Online learning pilot program – Community languages schools

The online learning pilot program in community languages schools aims to provide students in New South Wales who cannot access face-to-face community languages classes, such as students in regional and remote areas of New South Wales, with an opportunity to participate in learning their background/heritage language.

Organisations interested in applying to take part in the pilot program to deliver online community languages classes in 2024 must meet the same eligibility requirements as outlined in the Program Guidelines, excluding the face-to-face requirement.

The pilot program is open to organisations currently funded by the Community Languages Schools Program only.

To be eligible for funding organisations must also meet the following **additional** eligibility requirements:

- Provide a minimum of two hours per week language teaching based on a sound educational program.

- Limit online class time to a maximum of 60 minutes on any one day with the remaining time to be delivered on a different day or delivered asynchronously/offline through tasks, projects or homework.

- Limit class sizes for each online class to a minimum of 5 students and a maximum of 10 students for primary aged students and 15 for high school aged students.

- Use appropriate video conferencing software and online learning platforms such as Zoom, Google Meet, Microsoft Teams, etc and provide meeting links for Community Languages Schools Program staff to observe classes.

- Submit a detailed teaching program for each online class, group or year level (this may be done by providing a digital copy of your teaching program or by providing a link to your online course, e.g. Canvas, Google Classroom or other learning management system).

- Submit a weekly screenshot displaying the date and names of students in each online class during Term 1. This will be for internal purposes only and not for publication.

- Keep an attendance record for all online classes throughout the year. This can be a log taken from your online management system.

- Notify the Community Languages Schools Program immediately of any changes to class arrangements.

- All students must reside in and attend school in New South Wales. This includes home schooled students.

Additional considerations

Before applying to take part in the pilot program, organisations should carefully consider the following:

- Do we have teachers who have experience in delivering online language lessons?
- Do we have appropriate technology for teachers and students?
- Do we have suitable resources for online language teaching and learning?
- Do we have an appropriate cyber-safety plan in place?
- Do all of our students reside and attend school in New South Wales? This includes home schooled students.

Successful schools must participate in an evaluation of the pilot program at the end of 2024.

Further information

Information sessions about participation in the pilot program will be held in early 2024. For further information, please contact Wafa Saboune, Curriculum Project Officer via email at wafa.saboune@det.nsw.edu.au or call (02) 7814 0220.