



Yvette Berry MLA
Deputy Chief Minister
Minister for Education and Early Childhood
Minister for Homes, Homelessness and New Suburbs
Minister for Sport and Recreation
Member for Ginninderra

Mr Tom Duncan
Clerk
ACT Legislative Assembly
clerk@parliament.act.gov.au

Dear Mr Duncan *Tom*

Thank you for your letter dated 3 December 2025 regarding petition *E-PET-077-25 – Access to 11-12 ATAR language courses in 2026*.

The ACT Government is committed to an inclusive, equitable and high-quality public education system that recognises the right of every child and young person to learn and benefit from the opportunities that education brings.

The ACT Government aspires for the ACT to be the jurisdiction of choice for languages education, particularly given our national standing as representing Australia's diplomatic headquarters, major government departments, and multicultural community.

Language education in ACT public schools occurs in various forms from preschool to year 12. In 2025, 11 different languages were taught across ACT public schools, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages, Auslan, Chinese, French, German, Hindi, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean and Spanish.

From 2026, the previous CIT Solutions Centre for Modern Languages delivered Board of Senior Secondary Studies-approved language courses for ACT college students will not be provided to new students. Language education offerings for senior secondary students in our public college system will be solely a school-based decision, and students will be required to access language courses via existing school enrolment options or the Board of Senior Secondary Studies specialist education provider for Chinese language.

I understand that there will be members of the community disappointed by the decision not to centralise a language program, however I trust this information provides the petitioners with assurance that their concerns have been acknowledged by the ACT Government.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Yvette Berry', written over a blue circular scribble.

Yvette Berry MLA
Minister for Education and Early Childhood
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