



## Global schools through languages

A plan for supporting successful global citizens in Queensland state schools

*Learning an Asian language at Wellers Hill State School*

“*Learning a language has long been held as one of the best ways to break down cultural barriers and open up a world of opportunity for our students.*”

Kate Jones MP  
Minister for Education

Queensland students live and learn in an increasingly interconnected world. As tomorrow's leaders and citizens, they need to be aware of global issues and understand the traditions and cultures of our broader community more than ever before.

Learning a language gives our students the chance to communicate across cultures and experience the world in new ways. This helps build a cohesive society at home as well as preparing students for success in the internationally competitive employment and business markets.

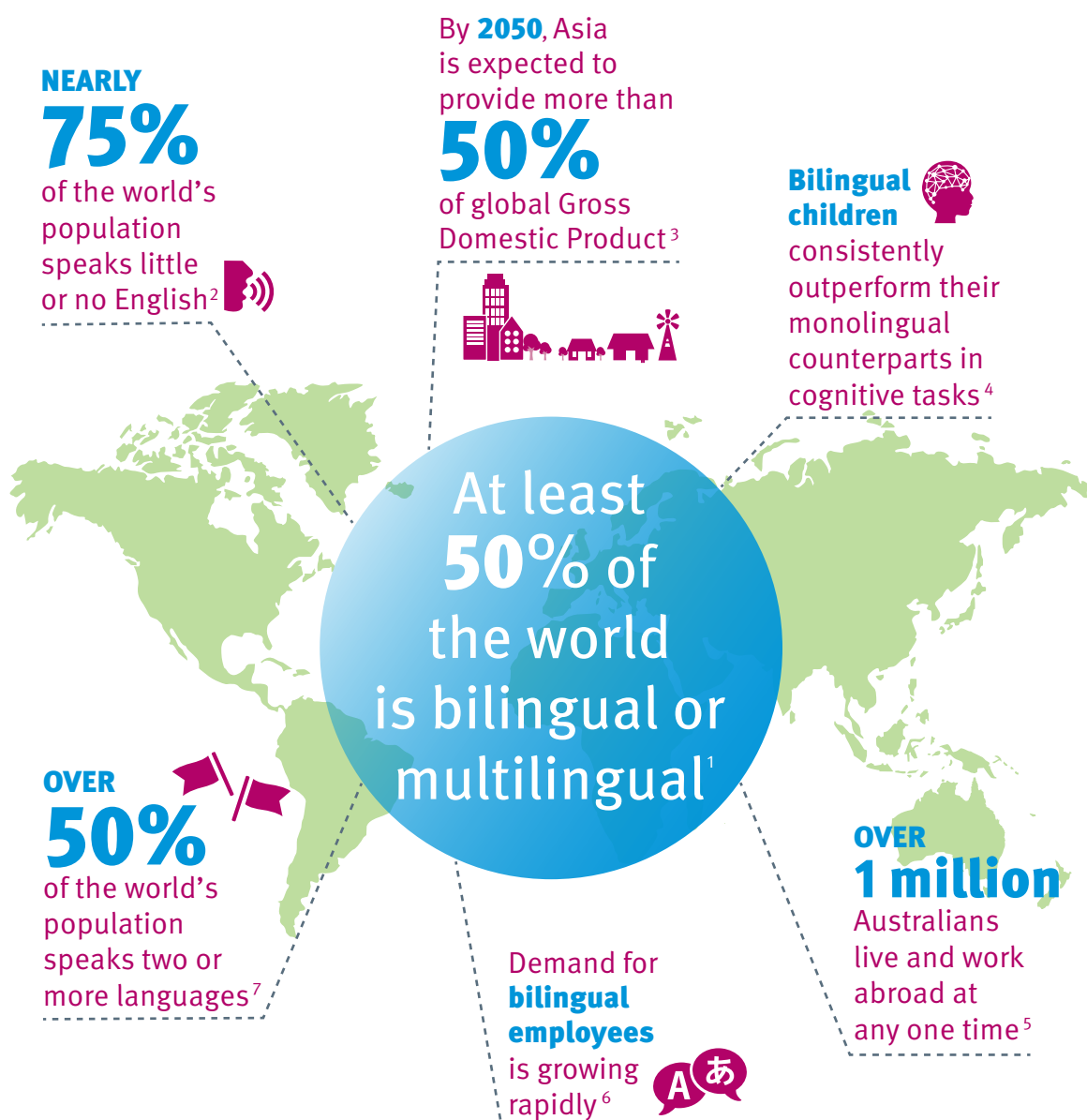
Increasingly, school leaders and teachers are helping students to communicate and collaborate across cultures; using digital technologies to reach beyond the classroom.

Queensland schools, as part of a global community, are building students' cultural competency by supporting student and teacher exchange programs, hosting study tours and developing sister school initiatives. We are taking our schools to the world and bringing the world into our schools.

Expanding the study of languages and cultures from Prep to Year 12 in state schools, with a focus on Asian languages, will support young Queenslanders to develop a global mindset, enable them to communicate across languages and cultures, and open doors to further study and personal and career opportunities.

“*Studying another language is not a speciality for a few. It provides the opportunity to develop competencies required for everyone in the age of globalisation.*”

Professor Yong Zhao



### Our plan for global schools through languages in Queensland state schools will:

- expand the study of languages from Prep to Year 12 with a focus on Asian languages
- build the intercultural capability of students, teachers and school leaders
- market Queensland's education sector internationally.



**Queensland**  
Government

## Global schools through languages



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*Our languages connect us to our country, to our Old People, to our stories, and to our belonging to each other and our ways of knowing ... for future generations to come.*

”

Dr Doris Paton

## Languages for every student

- expanding languages from Prep through resources and professional development for teachers and principals, collaborative projects and research
- supporting school-based initiatives to increase the number of language students in Years 11-12, in response to local needs
- partnering with universities to extend opportunities for students learning languages through scholarships for university vacation programs, and other initiatives such as the Young Language Ambassador program
- supporting after-hours community language schools through access to grants and training
- creating opportunities for students to interact with language users and mentors in the local community
- promoting the benefits of bilingual programs through an online resource hub and teacher and principal forums
- piloting in-country immersion opportunities for high-achieving students, such as for Year 10 students studying Japanese or Chinese and a STEM subject
- developing the capabilities of teachers to value and support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students' first languages and heritage languages through an online professional development course
- supporting schools to offer traditional language programs in consultation with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities

## Teaching for a global world

- supporting principals and teachers to champion languages and a global mindset across their school community with an online resource hub, professional development and sister school relationships
- attracting, recruiting and retaining quality teachers in identified language areas
- building teaching capability through highlighting effective practice and expanding professional development opportunities with universities, professional associations, and language and cultural organisations
- using technologies to connect students with speakers of the language and innovate in the classroom to optimise language learning and intercultural understanding
- providing teachers with professional development and international immersion experiences to enhance their cultural awareness and language and teaching skills
- offering students and teachers language and cultural opportunities through international exchanges, awards, study tours and immersion
- harnessing local and international partnerships, such as with AsiaLink Business and Asia Education Foundation, to build the intercultural capability of teachers and school leaders
- partnering with local and international organisations to place native speaking teacher assistants in state schools as a language and cultural resource
- providing networking and professional learning opportunities for teachers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages
- attracting and training new teachers and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members to deliver effective heritage language programs

## International education

- promoting Queensland state schools' education and training services to emerging student markets on- and off-shore, that will be of social, cultural and economic benefit to Queensland, in partnership with schools and stakeholders
- enhancing international relationships with education counterparts and governments overseas through sister school relationships, study tours, professional visits, curriculum licencing and consultancy
- supporting schools to establish innovative global connections and interact with their international peers through the use of technology
- supporting global learning through access to Commonwealth Games curriculum activities
- connecting Gold Coast schools with schools from nations participating in the 2018 Commonwealth Games
- hosting the GC2018 Youth Leadership engagement program to create a Commonwealth-wide conversation amongst students
- contributing to the Queensland economy through marketing fee-for-service international student programs (Prep to Year 12) and inbound study tours

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