



Communicating with the school

Teachers can assist your child to use their home languages to support their learning at school.

You can tell schools about your home languages by:

- recording them on the school enrolment form
- speaking with your child's classroom or home group teacher, or school office staff
- using school communication apps.

Translation services are available to help you communicate with your child's school. Ask your school for help to access these services.



What language/s do you speak at home?

- Language/s other than English
- A dialect of English other than Standard Australian English.

What is Standard Australian English?

Standard Australian English (SAE) is the dialect (type) of English used in media, government, education, social services and most workplaces in Australia.

SAE is used for teaching and learning in most Australian preschools and schools.

For further information please email:
Education.EALDcurriculum@sa.gov.au

English



HOME LANGUAGES MATTER

Information for families



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Department for Education



Why home languages matter

Using a home language (or first language) other than English may make learning English at school faster and easier.

Maintaining home languages may:

- support academic achievement
- improve memory and concentration
- contribute to building a strong connection to family, community and culture
- support children's bi/multilingualism
- foster the development of multiple worldviews.



Helping your child maintain their home languages

Encourage your child to use their home languages when:

- reading, singing and playing games
- sharing stories, traditions and cultures
- engaging with their interests (eg sport, music, cooking)
- borrowing materials from the local library or community group
- choosing and using apps
- selecting the audio or subtitles of movies
- nurturing their passion for early writing
- helping them with homework tasks.



Developing Standard Australian English (SAE) at school

Supporting your child to learn SAE at school may consist of one-to-one or small group support with a specialist teacher and/or someone who knows their language.

Your child may also be supported with:

- improving oral language skills in SAE
- learning new sounds and grammar
- reading and writing in SAE
- incorporating linguistic and cultural understandings into their learning of SAE
- having more time to complete learning tasks.

