

EAL Research Project – Home languages in the English classroom: Working with multilingual stories

Expressions of interest are sought from schools in the Diocese of Ballarat to take part in a joint CECV / Monash University research project, beginning in Term 3, 2021.

This professional learning and research project has been designed to guide teachers and schools to work with a plurilingual approach. The new Victorian EAL curriculum refers to plurilingual pedagogy as offering significant potential for student learning. This project will develop resources and a professional learning program on plurilingual pedagogy that is embedded in the new EAL curriculum. The project aims to support the learning of students in diverse classrooms – with a primary focus on EAL students and a secondary ‘value-add’ focus on students proficient in English. The approach taken also supports teachers’ and students’ use of digital technologies and literacies and will extend teachers’ capacity in these areas.

The research is aimed initially at upper primary classes and involves professional learning for teachers as well as data collection and onsite visits and observations.

The professional learning aspect of the research will focus on:

- Combining functional language analysis with plurilingual pedagogy
- Meeting EAL curriculum achievement standards in a way that aligns with meeting English curriculum standards
- Multilingual storytelling
- Creating bi/multilingual books
- Embedding (and sequencing) this approach across the primary years.

If your school is interested in participating, please contact Sue Paulka (spaulka@ceob.edu.au) for further details.