

CULTURAL & PLURILINGUAL AWARENESS

Plurilingual strategies

What does this look like in the classroom?

No matter what learning area you are teaching, you can support a student's English language learning by providing explicit opportunities for them to draw on their knowledge of other languages. Employ simple strategies in any classroom to encourage plurilingualism, which promotes engagement and participation, and fosters a sense of belonging.

Encourage students to:

- ask and answer questions in their home language about classroom instructions or content with peers, support officers or translation tools as support
- teach peers and teachers expressions in their home language (for example, greetings, counting, classroom objects or instructions)

- record an audio or video message using their home language to explain prior knowledge about a class topic, using images as a prompt

- communicate in their home language while working with peers to carry out a procedure (for example, a recipe, experiment, exercise routine or maths problem)
- perform a song, story or monologue in their home language to share knowledge and develop confidence in speaking to a group
- explain a concept or recount an experience to family members in their home language and make a recording as a resource for translation or writing.