

ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE (EAL)

Years 9–10

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 validates prior knowledge, builds self-esteem and fosters a sense of belonging.

Encourage students to:

- research a project (for example, a story, recipe, technology, significant person or historical event) by talking to family or community members
- teach peers a skill (for example, a sports technique, dance move or solving an equation), incorporating demonstration, body language, and key words in multiple languages
- review learnt concepts by explaining them in their home language to peers, family members or support officers
- interview a family or community member who is knowledgeable about a class topic and share insights with the class

- discuss (in a group) a text or topic using their home language and prepare to share ideas with the class in English
- enhance oral presentations by incorporating their home language into speech or slides to add nuance and detail

- share their home language expressions or culturally specific metaphors that help explain concepts
- create a video combining their home language and English speech or subtitles explaining a subject concept to an audience.