



Australian Federation of Modern Language Teachers Associations Inc.

AFMLTA

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Deputy CEO and GM Curriculum
ACARA
Level 10, 255 Pitt Street
Sydney, NSW, 2000

October 7th 2011

RE: PUBLICATION OF *THE SHAPE OF THE AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM: LANGUAGES*

Dear Rob,

As the peak body for languages educators in Australia, we are writing to you to seek clarification about the timeline for the development of the Australian Curriculum: Languages. As noted on ACARA's website, the publication of the revised *Shape of the Australian Curriculum: Languages* was due to occur in September 2011. To our knowledge this has not happened. It is the AFMLTA's strong desire to work towards the development of quality language programs for all Australian students in an attempt to reverse the decline of languages in education in Australia recognised now for 30 years. Just this week, Professor Joe Lo Bianco made a call for rigorous language programs in primary schools on national radio. This demonstrates the widespread support for languages in the community and across education sectors in Australia. We therefore ask that ACARA progress the Languages curriculum as per the published schedule.

Furthermore, we would like to take this opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to the important work of ACARA. We invite you to call on the AFMLTA to provide whatever collaboration may be necessary to ensure that Australia's languages curriculum becomes a model which other nations seek to emulate.

Yours sincerely,

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