

Senior School and Post-Secondary Transitions

Being inclusive of students from refugee and migrant backgrounds: What can your school do?



Listen

- Take time to learn about the unique needs, interests and aspirations of students.
- Start conversations about senior school study and post-secondary transitions early.
- Understand the experiences of refugee and migrant background students and their families.
- Use professional interpreters to listen and respond to the concerns and needs of families. All Government schools are able to access interpreting and translation services via VITS LanguageLoop.

Support



- Offer as much one-on-one guidance and transition support as possible.
- Determine students' visa status and what access they have to student loans for tertiary course entrance.
- Provide translated vocabulary lists and other resources to students and families explaining the language of transitions.
- Support students to pursue alternative pathways to university by connecting them with TAFE and other bridging courses.
- Include Multicultural Education Aides and wellbeing staff in the planning and support of transitions.
- Develop school-wide policies and practices that promote equity in transitions.



Empower

- Guide students to select subjects that support their strengths and aspirations.
- Organise opportunities for students to engage with peer mentors who have experienced senior school and post-secondary transitions in Australia.
- Provide opportunities for students and families to become familiar with different professions and career pathways e.g. organise visits to TAFE and university campuses.
- Work with Multicultural Education Aides and/or professional interpreters to run career information sessions for families.
- Identify external programs and supports available to assist students in achieving their goals e.g. explore university scholarship opportunities and VET programs.

Resources



For interpreting and translation services:

- Department of Education and Training Interpreting and Translation Services - <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/interpreting-and-translation-services/policy>
- LanguageLoop - <https://languageloop.com.au/>

For scholarship opportunities:

- Refugee Education Special Interests Group - <http://refugee-education.org/scholarships>
- Deakin CREATE (Centre for Refugee Employment, Advocacy, Training and Education) - <http://deakincreate.org.au/scholarships/>

For Vocational Education and Training (VET) programs:

- Department of Education and Training Asylum Seeker VET Program - <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/training/providers/learnlocal/Pages/asylumseekervetpro.aspx>
- Asylum Seeker Resource Centre VET Program - <https://asrc.org.au/vocational-education-training-vet/>

Department of Education and Training resources:

- Career resource guidelines for EAL and CALD young people - <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/teachingresources/careers/resourcekit/Pages/secondlanguage.aspx>