

About the Project

The Asia Literacy Ambassadors – Partnering Businesses & Schools project is establishing and supporting partnerships between businesses and schools to stimulate and increase student and school community demand for Asia literacy.

Skilled professionals from the business sector (Ambassadors) are being matched to secondary schools across Australia. By sharing their own story, Ambassadors are assisting school communities to better understand the diverse career and life opportunities available to employees who are knowledgeable about Asia, who speak an Asian language and have the skills and dispositions needed to effectively engage with the people and cultures of Asia, off-shore and domestically.

Partnerships

Ambassadors and their partner schools have the flexibility to establish a partnership that best suits the specific interests, expertise and availability of the Ambassador and the needs of the school community.

Partnerships take many forms – for example, student visits to the Ambassador's workplace, presentations to student groups, dialogue with leadership teams, career practitioners, teachers and school councils, or mentoring students involved in career planning and decision-making.

Ideally, partnering Ambassadors and schools will participate in at least three face-to-face interactions over a six-to-eight month period. That said, the number of interactions and when they occur will depend very much on the availability and goals of the Ambassador and school.



Who can be an Ambassador?

Ambassadors are skilled professionals from the business sector who can demonstrate the knowledge, skills and understandings required to work with and/or in Asia and with Asian-Australian communities.

Benefits

Partnerships between Ambassadors and schools to:

- increase young Australians' awareness of and engagement with the Asian region, Asian-Australian communities and influences from the Asian region;
- give skilled professionals the opportunity to share their expertise and work and life experiences with Australian secondary school students;
- increase students' understanding of how being Asia literate can influence their career prospects and lifestyle aspirations;
- increase support for targeted teaching and learning in a range of curriculum areas that builds students' Asia literacy;
- establish mentoring partnerships between skilled professionals and school students and staff; and
- establish direct links between local business and school communities.

Project Partners

The project is an initiative of the Australian Government and managed by the Asia Education Foundation (AEF) with the support of the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI), Australian Industry Group (AiG), the Business Council of Australia (BCA), education jurisdictions, schools and careers educators nationally.

Get in touch

Contact the project team if you have any questions or to register an interest in participating in this landmark project:

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