

ATESOL NSW

Strategic Plan 2024-2026

Our Priorities and Actions

1. *Developing understanding* - developing professional knowledge of EAL/D curriculum, pedagogy and assessment

- Articulating research-informed models of EAL/D teaching practice in school and post-school settings
- Applying EAL/D teaching research to interrogate and enrich the teaching of reading and systematic and explicit teaching
- Highlighting the interdependence of language and culture underpinning EAL/D teaching and learning
- Investigating the ‘D’ in EAL/D to understand how Indigenous languages, cultures and Aboriginal English is a resource for school learning.

2. *Building community* - fostering a community of EAL/D teaching practice through professional learning and related activities

Professional learning

- Surveying and identifying EAL/D PL needs and priorities of teachers in relation to target groups such as new arrivals, refugees
- Building a network of presenters with particular skills and interests for PL events
- Planning and delivering annual PL programs addressing the needs of teacher target groups, e.g. new and experienced EAL/D teachers, mainstream teachers of EAL/D learners, school leaders, early childhood teachers, Stage 6 Syllabus teachers, TAFE/SEE/AMEP teachers
- Providing opportunities for teachers to come together to learn about developments in the field and share ideas and resources
- Encouraging and recognising excellence and best practice in EAL/D teaching
- Hosting by ATESOL NSW of the 2026 ACTA International conference.

Participation

- Improving communications with members and the wider EAL/D community

- Broadening membership and participation across DoE, Catholic, independent school systems and TAFE, SEE, AMEP and ELICOS
- Ensuring inclusion of teachers from regional and rural areas in association activities
- Encouraging and mentoring professional leadership for the association.

Governance

- Strengthening governance roles and processes to improve association operations, decision-making and culture.

Collaboration

- Developing professional collaborations with schools, universities, other professionals and professional bodies.

3. *Strengthening voice* - *enhancing EAL/D teachers' advocacy, impact and recognition as a professional body of experts in the field.*

- Promoting the work of the association
- Recognising and raising awareness of the role and value of EAL/D teaching at all levels of education and training
- Working with government departments and curriculum bodies to include research-informed, best practice in EAL/D teaching.