



# Submission cover sheet

## **Inquiry into E-PET-077-25: Access to 11-12 ATAR language courses in 2026**

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Submitter: Name Withheld

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**To: The Legislative Assembly ACT, Social Policy Committee**

**Inquiry into E-PET-077-25 Access to 11-12 ATAR Language Courses in 2026**

My daughter [REDACTED] was a student at the Canberra Academy of Languages (CAL) studying French in Years 11 and 12 in 2019 and 2020. [REDACTED] completed her ATAR at Tuggeranong College in December 2020 and went on to tertiary study at the Australian National University completing her degree in 2024.

In 2020, the ACT Board of Senior Secondary Studies (BSSS) awarded her the Excellence Award for academic achievements, specifically in French. Despite the challenges of Covid in that year, the ACT college system worked in close collaboration with CAL to ensure [REDACTED]'s love of French could continue through her senior high school years, even though Lake Tuggeranong College itself did not offer French. [REDACTED] and I will always be grateful for this.

Our experience with CAL was excellent and critical for the continuation of her love of French which she developed through years 7 to 10 at Alfred Deakin High School.

Of critical importance was a centrally located teaching environment and an administration system that worked in sync with the College timetables. This meant that [REDACTED] could easily and safely commute into the city following her other classes in Tuggeranong and still complete her day at a reasonable hour and with easy and safe access to bus routes.

Further to this, the student cohort commenced classes together and thus developed friendships and were able to support each other. If [REDACTED] had attended a different college, for example Hawker college, she would have been in a cohort that had already formed relationships and may have found it difficult to integrate.

The College paid directly for the cost of the course and were always working with me as a parent to ensure the reporting and ATAR results were joined up – a seamless process for our family and one that ensured [REDACTED] received accessible, safe and professional teaching meaning she could continue her love of French.

As a young adult [REDACTED] is now considering furthering her French education and we are very grateful for the ACT College system, to CAL and to the Principal of Tuggeranong College.

In my view it will be vital that future senior high school language students have the same opportunities as we did – namely

- flexible delivery
- A central location close to main transport links
- Dedicated professional teachers
- Accessible at a time suited to their full ATAR timetables and allowing them to travel easily and at reasonable times without incurring late evening classes.
- Affordable or no cost to the families

I am very happy to expand on our experience should the committee have any questions.

Kind Regards, [REDACTED]