



Submission cover sheet

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

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Submitter: Vengatasalam Jeganathan

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Submission to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Inquiry into E-Petition 077-25

Access to Year 11–12 ATAR Language Courses in 2026

Submitted by: Vengatasalam Jeganathan

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1. Introduction

This submission responds to the inquiry into access to Year 11–12 ATAR language courses in the ACT. It supports the continuation and formalisation of centrally delivered language programs to ensure equitable access for all students.

2. Summary of Key Points

- There is a clear gap in access to ATAR language courses across ACT colleges.
- The existing centralised model has effectively addressed this gap.
- Discontinuing the program will disadvantage students.
- Other jurisdictions provide similar models.
- A sustainable government-led solution is required.

3. Background and Context

From 2017 to 2023, CAL provided language courses for senior students. In 2024–2025, this continued via CIT Solutions. These programs allowed students to attend weekly classes while remaining enrolled at their home college.

4. The Problem

Many colleges do not offer a full range of languages, creating inequity and limiting student opportunities. Students cannot continue languages studied earlier, impacting academic outcomes and pathways.

5. Benefits of Continuing the Program

- Supports continuity of learning
- Ensures equity across the ACT
- Promotes cultural and economic value
- Builds on a proven delivery model

6. Recommendations

1. Establish a centralised ATAR language program within ACT Education Directorate.
2. Start with Year 11 in 2026 and expand to Year 12.
3. Maintain accessible delivery model.
4. Consult stakeholders.

7. Conclusion

Discontinuing these courses would disadvantage ACT students. A government-led continuation is necessary to ensure fairness and educational opportunity.

8. Participation in Hearing

I would be willing / not willing (please select) to appear before the Committee at a public hearing.