

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

ORGANISATION: CONSULATE OF ITALY IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

PURPOSE OF MOU: TO SUPPORT AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF WESTERN AUSTRALIAN PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO STUDY ITALIAN LANGUAGE IN THE SENIOR SECONDARY YEARS OF SCHOOLING,.

[May 2016]

THIS Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is made

BETWEEN:

**The Department of Education
("Department")**

and

The Consulate of Italy in Western Australia

1 - Preamble

The Western Australian Department of Education, hereinafter referred to as the 'Department', and the Consulate of Italy in Western Australia, hereinafter referred to as the 'Consulate', and herein after jointly referred to as the 'Participants',

In accordance with the current Program of Cultural Cooperation implementing the Cultural Agreement between the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia and the Government of the Italian Republic, signed on 26 May 2016

Acknowledging the importance of educational co-operation,

Recognise:

- the mutually beneficial results of the relationship between the two Participants;
- the reciprocal commitment to further develop and deepen co-operation; and
- the importance of the principles of equality and mutual benefit.

Consider:

- it is an objective of the Western Australian Government to improve pathways and instructional practice in languages education from Pre-primary to Year 12;
- it is an objective of the Italian Government's education policy to enhance the quality and the continuity of learning across the phases of schooling, of Italian language and culture teaching in Australia; and
- it is an objective of the Italian Government's education policy to support the expansion of bilingual schools.

Agree:

- Italy and Australia enjoy excellent political, economic and cultural relations;
- Italy and Italian language appeal to a wide public in Western Australia, notwithstanding the cultural heritage of the different communities that are established in Western Australia;
- in Australia, the Italian cultural heritage is significant and Italian is still spoken in the Italian community; and
- the Italian community in Western Australia, through its key organisations supports the teaching and learning of Italian.

2 – Aims

- The Participants, within the limits of their financial, material and human resources, aim to:
- increase the number of students in Western Australian public schools who study Italian continuing to the senior secondary years of schooling. Strategies include: promotional cultural and social activities and events, such as prizes, music and sport events organised by Italian organisations;
- encourage school practices which demonstrate effective teaching and learning of Italian language and culture;
- foster collaboration with the tertiary sector of education;
- support ongoing professional learning for Western Australian public school teachers of Italian; and
- the Consulate of Italy, within the framework of the Italian Government Programs for the diffusion of the Italian language abroad, will support Italian Language Programs when directed to the learning of Italian language through mainstream courses delivered in Western Australian public schools Pre-Primary to Year 12.

In addition, the Parties agree to make other Government agencies aware of these arrangements and seek their co-operation in their implementation.

3 – Responsible organisations

The designated organisations, coordinating the activities within this MOU will be:

- the Department of Education, Western Australia; and
- the Consulate of Italy in Western Australia.

4 – Annual Meeting

The Parties will meet at the end of each school year to discuss the implementation of the MOU.

5 – Coming into force

This MOU will come into force on the date of its signing and will be in force for a period of 5 (five) years consecutively, unless either Participant wishes to terminate the MOU, in which case the terminating Party shall give advance notice in writing at least four months prior to the end of the school year. The effective date of that termination shall be 31 December of that year.

6 - Disputes

Any dispute arising out of the interpretation or implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled amicably by consultation or negotiation between the Participants.

7 – Modifications

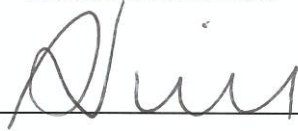
This Memorandum of Understanding may be modified by mutual consent between the Participants, and any such modification will be in writing.

8 – Agreement with other jurisdictions in WA

The Consulate of Italy commits itself to seek a similar MOU with Catholic Education in Western Australia and the Association of Independent Schools, Western Australia to achieve the same benefits as described in the present agreement.

Signed in Perth on the twenty sixth-day of May in the year 2016 in two original copies, each in the Italian and English languages, both texts being of equal authenticity.

For the Department of Education
Western Australia



Sharyn O'Neill
Director General
Department of Education

For the Consulate of Italy in
Western Australia



Consul of Italy
in Western Australia