

**VICTORIA**  
State  
Government  
Australia

# Global Learning and Engagement Newsletter

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING

[Visit our website](#)



[News](#) | [Professional Development](#) | [For Students](#) | [Resources](#)

## News



### From the Executive Director, Linda Vaughan

Welcome to the first edition of the Global Learning and Engagement (GL&E) newsletter for 2022. I would like to introduce myself as the new Executive Director of the International Education Division (IED) at the Department of Education and Training.



Over the past decade, I have worked in a range of leadership roles across the Victorian State Government, including serving as Director of Industry Development and Industry Participation with oversight of the Local Jobs First Act at the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions. However, my longstanding passion for the international education industry has brought me back to IED, where I spent the first few years of my career in the Victorian Public Service. I am extremely excited to return to the sector and lead the Department's international education and global learning and engagement agenda as Victoria steps through COVID-19 recovery.

To continue reading, see: [Executive Director's Update](#).

### Global Learning and Engagement (GL&E) Symposium 2021 – Highlights

The 2021 GL&E Symposium brought together education partners, principals, assistant principals and leading teachers from Victorian government primary and secondary schools to discuss the importance of GL&E. The symposium also workshopped what GL&E might look like in the future, including GL&E teaching capabilities and the importance of social cohesion in classrooms. With the face-to-face delivery of GL&E programs on hold due to COVID-19, participants discussed the challenges they have faced during the pandemic to initiate and sustain GL&E in schools. Feedback from the participants is being used to inform IED's future GL&E program and policy development. Event details for the 2022 Symposium will be provided in the next edition. To view the online recording, see: [GL&E Symposium 2021](#).



## Student Voice Forum

IED recently hosted the Student Voice Forum for international and local students in our first in-person event in over two years. Student leaders from 10 schools came together to create student-led global citizenship and intercultural capability activities. The next phase of the project is to coach and mentor students at their individual schools as they go about implementing their initiatives.

## Extension in the call for expression of interest for new foreign arrangements

The deadline for the expression of interest for new foreign arrangements, including sister school partnerships has been extended to the end of Term 1 2022. The closing date is extended from 7 March to 8 April as we will be unable to execute the second round of expression of interest in June due to the forthcoming state election.

If you are considering a new sister school partnership or want to vary an existing arrangement, contact us at: [international.relations@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:international.relations@education.vic.gov.au) by **Friday 8 April 2022**.

To learn more, visit: [Sister school partnerships and Foreign Relations Act](#).

## Online collaboration with schools in China

An exciting opportunity exists for one primary and one secondary Victorian school, to collaborate virtually with schools in Chongqing, China. The collaboration will focus on the areas of music, painting, language, and culture and may lead to a sister school partnership in the future.

If your school is interested, contact: Maple Fu, School Education Service Manager at [maple.fu@global.vic.gov.au](mailto:maple.fu@global.vic.gov.au), or Terry Wang, Education Service Manager (Victorian Government Trade and Investment Office) at [terry.wang@global.vic.gov.au](mailto:terry.wang@global.vic.gov.au) by **Friday 8 April 2022**.

## Nominations open for the Dr Lawrie Shears Outstanding Global Teaching and Learning Award, Victorian Education Excellence Awards 2022

Nominations for the 2022 Dr Lawrie Shears Outstanding Global Teaching and Learning Award at the Victorian Education Excellence Awards (VEEAs) are now open. The Dr Lawrie Shears Outstanding Global Teaching and Learning Award recognises school teams that have demonstrated excellence in global learning and engagement at their school and have provided their students with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in an increasingly complex and interconnected world.

Congratulations to Balwyn High School on being awarded as the winner of the 2021 Dr Lawrie Shears Outstanding Global Teaching and Learning Award.

Schools are encouraged to nominate themselves for the 2022 awards by **Friday 20 May 2022**.

To learn more, visit: [VEEA 2022](#).

# CULTURAL DIVERSITY WEEK 2022

**Connecting** through **culture**



## Cultural Diversity Week 19 - 27 March

Every year in March, the Victorian Multicultural Commission (VMC) brings Victorians together for Cultural Diversity Week, to celebrate the colourful sounds, sights, and tastes of the state's diverse communities. The theme for this year's Cultural Diversity Week is Connecting Through Culture. VMC is organising a range of in-person events and activities for Victorians to share their stories, appreciate shared experiences and celebrate the best of what our multicultural society has to offer.

To get involved, schools can visit: [Cultural Diversity Week 2022](#).

## International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

March 21 is the United Nation's International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. This day paved the way for the Cultural Diversity Week and is a reminder that supporting and advocating on behalf of multicultural communities is vital to eliminate racism from society.

For more information, see: [VMC's advocacy](#).

# Professional Development



## Teaching Excellence Program (TEP)

The TEP is the Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership's (formerly known as Bastow Institute of Education Leadership) flagship program for highly skilled teachers from Catholic, government and independent schools. It is a year-long multifaceted professional learning experience, involving conferences and masterclasses, supplemented with learning communities and self-directed learning. The participants can expect to build expertise with other curious teachers to sharpen knowledge, skills and dispositions, and make cross-sector connections.

To learn more, contact: [teaching.excellence.program@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:teaching.excellence.program@education.vic.gov.au), or visit [Teaching Excellence Program](#).

## Supporting students and families from refugee backgrounds

Foundation House is delivering professional learning sessions for multicultural education aides, bicultural workers, and leaders from schools across Victoria. These sessions aim to equip school staff to support student learning and strengthen engagement between schools and families from refugee backgrounds.

To register, visit: [School's In for Refugees](#).

# For Students



## Global Youth Forum (GYF)

Expressions of interest for the May – June 2022 GYF virtual program are now open, following the successful delivery of the Oct – Nov 2021 program that involved 225 students from 32 Victorian schools and 100 students from schools in China, Vietnam, Indonesia and Japan.

The GYF enables year 9 students to meet across international borders to critically discuss concepts of global citizenship and identity, exercise design thinking to investigate global challenges, and undertake a collaborative group design challenge that seeks to prototype a solution.

To express interest, contact: [b.hitchens@asialink.unimelb.edu.au](mailto:b.hitchens@asialink.unimelb.edu.au) at Asia Education Foundation, or email: [vyhc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:vyhc@education.vic.gov.au)

To read more, visit: [GYF](#).

## VICTORIAN YOUNG LEADERS TO INDIA PROGRAM

### Live, learn, explore



## Virtual Victorian Young Leaders to India (VYL) Program 2022

The 2022 VYL India program is an interactive six-week virtual journey for Year 9 students and supporting teachers and is modelled on the highly successful in-country VYL program. The program aims to develop a meaningful online collaboration between participants to build their leadership, intercultural and STEM skills.

This year's program commenced earlier in Term 1, 2022 with 84 student participants, teachers and school principals from Victoria and India. The program launch had a stellar line of inspirational speakers, including Saroo Brierley, author of *A Long Way Home* and the international award-winning film, *The Lion*, who shared his heart-warming story with students and highlighted the importance of resilience and perseverance. As the 2022 program concludes in April, the program overview will be provided in the next edition of the newsletter.

To learn more, contact: Value Learning, at [VYL@valuelearning.com.au](mailto:VYL@valuelearning.com.au), or visit: [VYL India 2022](#).

## Gangwon International Education Institute (GIEI) seeking student participants from Victorian schools

GIEI (a Gangwon Provincial Office of Education affiliated organisation) are seeking 5 Victorian high school students to participate in online debate style programs with students potentially from Korea, Japan, New Zealand, Russia and China. Participants from each country group will be asked to develop a positive or negative view on a chosen topic and then join an online Q&A session with other groups to deliver a presentation. All activities will be carried out in English.

For more details, see: [GIEI International Education Exchange programs](#).

To participate, contact: Jeon, Honam at [jhnlomio@korea.kr](mailto:jhnlomio@korea.kr) and register your interest by **Tuesday 3 May**.

## Korean Online Language Exchange program

Seoul Metropolitan Office of Education are seeking Victorian primary and secondary schools to participate in the Online Language Exchange (OLE) program with schools in Korea. The OLE program commenced in 2020 to help students polish their foreign language skills and improve their understanding of cultural diversity. In 2021, more than 230 students from 11 Australian schools learned the Korean language in a series of joint classes with 270 students from 12 schools across Korea. The 2022 classes will commence in April and real-time voice interpretation and captioning features will be used on Zoom to overcome any language barriers. If your school wishes to join the program, contact: [intaffairs@sen.go.kr](mailto:intaffairs@sen.go.kr)

To access the application form and learn more, visit: [OLE 2022](#), or see: [Online Language Exchange Program](#).

# Resources



## Teacher Resource Kit for Cultural Diversity Week

The VMC has recently released the Teacher Resource Kit for Cultural Diversity Week 2022. This kit is designed to provide inspiration and assistance to help schools acknowledge and celebrate cultural diversity in the classroom. The kit also provides links to curriculum resources, ideas for classroom discussion and other activities to celebrate Cultural Diversity Week.

To download your copy, visit: [Teacher Resource Kit](#).

## e-learning module: Refugee Journeys into Victorian Schools

Students from refugee backgrounds are a diverse cohort and mostly require additional support from teachers to develop the language and learning skills to succeed in Victorian schools. There is a range of programs and advice available to help guide staff who support refugee background students and families.

The Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY) is providing a free e-learning module about the journeys of refugee students into Victorian schools. This module aims to strengthen understanding and awareness among school staff to enable them to better support students from refugee backgrounds.

To access the module, visit: [Refugee Journeys into Victorian Schools](#).

## Follow us on social



Copyright © State Government of Victoria, Department of Education and Training, 2022

Department of Education and Training  
International Education Division  
80 Collins Street, Melbourne Victoria Australia 3000

Contact us at: [international@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:international@education.vic.gov.au)

Subscribe to this newsletter  
Unsubscribe from this list