Position Description

Project Officer, Aboriginal Languages

Why work with us

Every child and young person deserves a great education.

We have a strategy that aims to unlock every child's potential now and into the future, one that in partnership with learners, students, parents and the wider South Australian community will build a world-leading public education system. One that is equitable and prioritises learning and wellbeing.

Together we will make our education system the best it can be.

When our children and young people thrive, so do our communities and our state.

Our values

We are part of the South Australian public sector and share the values of:

SERVICE	PROFESSIONALISM	TRUST	RESPECT	COLLABORATION & ENGAGEMENT	HONESTY & INTEGRITY	COURAGE & TENACITY	SUSTAINABILITY
We proudly service the community and the South Australian Government.	We strive for excellence.	We have the confidence in the ability of others.	We value every individual.	We create solutions together.	We act truthfully, consistently, and fairly.	We never give up.	We work to get the best results for current and future generations of South Australians.

About this role

The EALD and Aboriginal Languages Unit, within the Curriculum Directorate of Curriculum and Learning Division supports Aboriginal Community aspirations to see their languages in South Australian public schools. The Aboriginal languages team partners with communities and schools to support the development of language resources and localised school programs.

The Project Officer, Aboriginal Languages is responsible for working closely with Aboriginal organisations and communities to increase the availability and quality of Aboriginal languages programs across the state. The Project Officer provides state-wide high-quality advice and support across a range of projects. This includes partnering with Aboriginal communities and a range of external and internal partners to develop and implement Aboriginal languages curriculum and collaborating with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) to support the development of locally relevant language and culture resources.

Position title	Project Officer, Aboriginal Languages
Classification	STL 3
Division	Curriculum and Learning
Directorate	Curriculum – EALD and Aboriginal Languages
Location	Education Support Hub, Hindmarsh
Reports to	Manager, Aboriginal Languages
Direct reports	Nil
Role description date	October 2026

What you will do (key outcomes)

1. Collaborate with language-focussed Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) and Aboriginal language owners to develop and implement language-specific curriculum for SA Aboriginal revival languages.
2. Provide state-wide leadership and expertise to Department for Education schools, local partnerships, corporate and associated agencies to improve access to, and participation in, Aboriginal languages.
3. Demonstrate culturally inclusive, equitable practices and ensure these are embedded in curriculum, professional learning and policy documents.
4. Work with key Aboriginal revival languages partners and community organisations across the state to ensure connection and collaboration between their strategic vision and the Strategy for Public Education.
5. Promote curricular and workforce needs of Aboriginal languages to improve their sustainability in various policy, governmental and community settings.
6. Collaborate and work with external agencies and individuals concerned with Aboriginal languages, including First Languages Australia, Mobile Languages Team (University of Adelaide) and linguists.
7. Ensure the cultural safety and wellbeing of Aboriginal colleagues, partners and organisations in work interactions and policy development.
8. Develop professional learning collaboratively with relevant Aboriginal partners to improve understanding of Aboriginal languages and skills in curriculum development and implementation as well as pedagogies relevant to Aboriginal languages, histories and cultures.
9. Collaborate with the Aboriginal Languages team to implement the relevant initiatives of the Aboriginal Education Strategy 2019 to 2029.
10. Help to maintain a safe and healthy working environment by proactively reporting incidents, hazards and injuries.

The capabilities you will bring (key competencies)

- Cultural responsiveness: Proven experience in working successfully in culturally and linguistically diverse contexts, particularly with Aboriginal language communities, with a knowledge of effective teaching and learning practices for languages and Aboriginal learners.
- Collaborative leadership: Successful experience in partnering with key stakeholder groups, including

Aboriginal organisations, language owners and communities, to develop and implement curriculum and improve approaches to teaching and learning Aboriginal revival languages.

- Pedagogical leadership: Demonstrated experience and expertise in providing focused pedagogical leadership through a culturally responsive lens which recognises and reflects diverse experiences, Aboriginal languages, and world views.
- Curriculum: Demonstrate extensive knowledge of the South Australian Curriculum and the AC Australian Curriculum Framework for Aboriginal Languages and Torres Strait Islander languages particularly as it applies to Aboriginal revival languages.
- Communication skills: Proven ability to communicate respectfully and effectively both orally and in writing with diverse groups, including Aboriginal communities and educators.
- Role management: Demonstrated experience in managing complex and competing priorities and using political nous to develop effective solutions, both individually and through working with others.
- Safe Workplace: contribute to a safe, healthy, and equitable working environment by actively reporting incidents that may pose a risk to physical, psychological or cultural wellbeing.

Who you will work with (key relationships)

Direct working relationships:

- Manager, Aboriginal Languages
- Assistant Director, EALD and Aboriginal Languages
- Project Officers, Aboriginal Languages, Aboriginal languages curriculum writers

Internal working relationships:

- Education Directors, site leaders and Aboriginal language teachers
- Leaders and officers within the directorate and Curriculum and Learning division

External working relationships:

- Aboriginal languages organisations
- Aboriginal language owners and communities
- Linguists

Eligibility

Applicants must be either currently registered or able to be registered to teach in South Australia. If not permanent with the Education Department, applicants must meet the department's minimum employment requirements before taking up an appointment.

Minimum departmental employment requirements for teachers include recognised teaching qualifications and registration as a teacher in South Australia and, in addition, for all applicants who are not permanent with the department will include an active on-line application in the Employable Teacher Register (ETR), a cleared Education Department Employment Declaration, Australian residency or current work permit, Reporting Abuse and Neglect training (previously known as Mandatory Notification), and an approved First Aid Certificate.

At the conclusion of a term of appointment:

- permanent Education Department employees will be placed according to the terms of their substantive appointment and the policies in operation at the time
- employees originally from other public sector organisations with a right of return, will be managed according to the provisions of the Public Sector Act 2009 (SA) and any applicable public sector determination or policies
- applicants who are not permanent employees of the department do not hold placement rights with the Department for Education at the conclusion of the appointment.

Corporate responsibilities	Special conditions
Keep accurate and complete records Act appropriately in line with the Public Sector Code of Ethics at all times Support diversity and promote an inclusive workplace for everyone Maintain a commitment to Work Health and Safety legislative requirements	You will need a current driver's license and be willing to drive You may be asked to work out of hours You may need to travel within or outside South Australia You need to achieve mutually agreed performance goals

Assessed by: Valentina Lopez People and Culture Advisor	Valetina L	**Approved by**: Bev White Assistant Director, EALD and Aboriginal Languages	
Date: October, 2026		**Date:** October 2026	