



Parent Tip Sheet 11. Support for Refugee & International Students

Support for refugee students

English language schools and centres provide intensive English as a second language (ESL) tuition for newly arrived students from language backgrounds other than English. Refugee students can attend these schools and centres for up to 12 months.

Funding is also provided to other schools with significant numbers of refugee students.

In addition, every region has a full-time ESL Program Officer to support schools with ESL learners, including those with refugee students.

For more information, visit www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/programs/esl/refugees/default.htm

Also, Foundation House provides direct services to families from refugee backgrounds in the form of counselling, advocacy, family support, group work, psycho-education, information sessions and complementary therapies. For more information, visit www.foundationhouse.org.au or phone (03) 9388 0022.



Support for international students

A dedicated International Student Coordinator (ISC) is provided in every secondary school accredited to accept international students. The welfare of international students is the responsibility of International Student Coordinators and these staff are the first point of contact for all international student queries or issues.

Interpreting & translating services

Schools can provide access to interpreting and translating services, free of charge, for parents from language backgrounds other than English.

Schools may also provide telephone interpreting service for families. This service can be used for:

- emergencies such as accidents, illness and discipline issues
- contacting parents who have difficulty coming to the school during normal hours
- accessing languages where there are limited numbers of accredited interpreters
- confirming appointments

For more information check with your school and/or visit www.education.vic.gov.au/

