Community Liaison Officers (CLOs) work within the Department for Education and Child Development (DECD).

Community Liaison Officers work with children and young people (birth to adult), parents and caregivers, schools, early childhood education settings, community leaders and community agencies.

Community Liaison Officers develop effective partnerships that enable children and young people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities to achieve educational success and pursue successful educational and vocational goals.

Contact details

African communities
Phone: 8207 1547

Bosnian and Croatian communities
Phone: 8226 2843

Middle Eastern communities
Phone: 8226 0241

Nepalese and Bhutanese communities
Phone: 8226 3697

Serbian community
Phone: 8226 2860

English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EALD) Program

For additional enquiries about the EALD Program contact:
Phone: 8226 2937 or 8226 2756
Email: DECD.EALD@sa.gov.au
Supporting CALD families to participate in education settings

Community Liaison Officers support participation of CALD families in education settings.

Community Liaison Officers:
- provide professional learning for DECD staff and students to develop their knowledge and understanding of diverse cultural backgrounds and experiences
- support DECD sites to increase the participation of CALD parents and caregivers in site-based activities
- work closely with parents and caregivers to support their participation in the education setting including parent-teacher meetings, governing councils, parent group meetings and forums.

Supporting CALD families to understand the Australian education system

Community Liaison Officers support CALD families to understand the Australian education system.

CLOs provide information about:
- the importance of learning through play in the Early Years
- collaborative, participatory and inquiry teaching and learning practices
- the curriculum, assessment and reporting policies and practices in preschools and schools
- DECD policies, for example:
  - Countering Racism policy
  - School Discipline policy
  - Child Protection policy
- alternative pathways for the completion of the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE).

Supporting student retention, engagement and achievement

Community Liaison Officers support the retention, engagement and achievement of CALD children and young people.

Community Liaison Officers:
- work collaboratively with families, DECD services and community agencies to achieve positive outcomes for children and young people
- provide advice and support for individual cases
- raise awareness in CALD communities of:
  - the expectations of children and young people in DECD sites
  - the importance of My Health Record (Blue Book)
  - everyday practices in the home that support child development and learning improvement
  - the role of DECD services and community agencies.