NSW SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES
Learn locally. Communicate globally.

COURSE INFORMATION 2027

35 West Street, Petersham NSW 2049
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www.nswschoollang.school.nsw.edu.au

NSW GOVERNMENT Education

Dear SUPERVISORS AND STUDENTS,

I am delighted to introduce you to our community of language learners. As a NSW Department of Education public school, we provide a unique opportunity for students in Years 9 to 12 to explore global languages via distance education.

At NSW School of Languages (NSL), we believe in the power of language to open doors, broaden horizons, and enrich lives. That is why we offer a diverse selection of 12 languages, ensuring there's something for everyone, whether you're a seasoned linguist or just starting your journey.

Our innovative approach to education blends online coursework with interactive weekly speaking lessons, allowing students to immerse themselves in the language from the comfort of their own school. This dynamic model fosters academic excellence and nurtures personal growth, providing students with skills that will last a lifetime.

In today's interconnected world mastering a new language opens up a world of opportunities, enabling you to engage with the global community meaningfully, whether you're conversing with neighbours or connecting with colleagues halfway across the world.

Enrolment at NSW School of Languages is open to students from both NSW public schools and NSW non-government schools. Our courses are accredited by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA), and for students in Years 11 and 12, they count towards the ATAR.

We hope the information enclosed sparks your curiosity and ignites a passion for language learning. For more details, be sure to visit our website, where you'll find additional information.

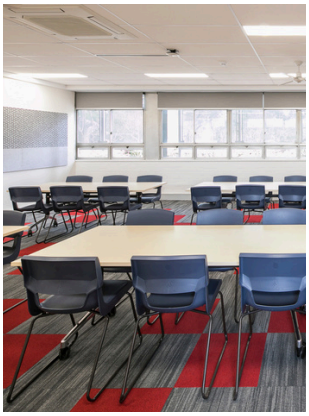
Join our online community on Facebook and Instagram, where you can stay updated on all the latest news and events from our school. Like, follow, and share our posts and pages to connect with fellow language enthusiasts and embark on this exciting journey together. Our YouTube channel features recordings of past information sessions you may find informative. We also have an ever-growing Spotify with many playlists you may wish to listen to and enjoy.

Thank you for considering NSW School of Languages as your partner in language learning. We look forward to welcoming you into our community and guiding you toward discovery, growth, and global engagement.

Warm regards,

Teresa Naso
Principal

About NSL



NSW School of Languages is a distance education Languages specialist school. We are part of a network of Department of Education schools that provide online Languages to students by distance education.

Subject to satisfying certain guidelines, students in NSW secondary and central schools may enrol to study a language course not available to them at their school. Enrolment is available to Years 9-12 students from NSW public schools and NSW non-government schools.

Learning is supported through a diverse program of engaging online courses, speaking lessons, and face-to-face lesson days at our campus in Petersham.

Face-to-face lesson days are held once per term and give students the opportunity to meet and learn with other students, whilst being immersed in the culture of the language of study.

The guidelines for enrolment may be viewed on our school website. All applications for enrolments must be submitted by the school on behalf of the student.

Our VISION

To develop successful, thriving learners with a love of languages, intercultural understanding and skills for their future.

Our MISSION

NSW School of Languages strives to lead the teaching and learning of languages through innovative quality language programs.

Our skilled and committed teachers work with the school community to ensure students reach their highest potential, broaden their global perspective and strengthen their connections with heritage and culture.

Our VALUES

Respect

Valuing oneself and others equally:

- I am polite, courteous, and friendly
- I respect different perspectives and opinions

Positivity

Demonstrating a positive attitude in all situations:

- I seek solutions and help to solve problems
- I endeavour to understand other people's perspectives

Collaboration

Working harmoniously together for a common purpose:

- I work well in a team and appreciate the input of others
- I work cooperatively to achieve a common goal

Commitment and responsibility

Consistent application of the highest standards to maximise outcomes:

- I am professional in all aspects of my work
- I work to the best of my ability and strive for excellence

Course LIST

CHINESE 中文

Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10)

- 100 Hours
- 200 Hours

Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)

- Beginners
- Continuers*
- Extension+
- Chinese in Context^

EAL/D

Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)

- Available to students in regional and rural government secondary schools

FRENCH *Français*

Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10)

- 100 Hours
- 200 Hours

Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)

- Beginners
- Continuers*
- Extension+

GERMAN *Deutsch*

Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10)

- 100 Hours
- 200 Hours

Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)

- Beginners
- Continuers*
- Extension+

INDONESIAN *Bahasa Indonesia*

Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10)

- 100 Hours
- 200 Hours

Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)

- Beginners
- Continuers*
- Extension+

ITALIAN *italiano*

Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10)
- 100 Hours
- 200 Hours

Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)
- Beginners
- Continuers*
- Extension+

JAPANESE 日本語

Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10)
- 100 Hours
- 200 Hours

Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)
- Beginners
- Continuers
- Extension+
- Japanese in Context^

KOREAN 한국어

Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10)
- 100 Hours
- 200 Hours

Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)
- Beginners
- Continuers*
- Korean in Context^

LATIN *Lingua Latina*

Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10)
- 100 Hours
- 200 Hours

Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)
- Continuers*

MODERN GREEK Ελληνικά

Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10)
- 100 Hours
- 200 Hours

Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)
- Beginners
- Continuers*
- Extension+

PORTUGUESE *Português*

Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)
- Continuers*

RUSSIAN *Русский*

Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10)

- 100 Hours
- 200 Hours

Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)

- Continuers*

SPANISH *Español*

Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10)

- 100 Hours
- 200 Hours

Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)

- Beginners
- Continuers*
- Extension+

Key

** Stage 6 Continuers courses are only available to students who have completed the Stage 5 (200 Hours) course or have prior knowledge equivalent to the Stage 5 course.*

+ Extension courses are only available to students in Year 12 who are also studying the Continuers course in the same language at NSL or school.

^ Stage 6 Language In Context courses are designed for students with a cultural and linguistic background in the language of study.

Language BROCHURES

You can view and download brochures for each of our Languages from our school website.

Useful LINKS

Department of Education

- NSW Student Learning Library
- Parents and Carers Information
- Stay Healthy HSC

NESA (NSW Education Standards Authority)

- Stage 5 Languages
- Stage 6 Languages
- HSC Course Selection Advice

NSW School of Languages

- About Our School
- Our Languages
- Supervisor Information and Resources
- Enrolment Information and Resources
- NSL Newsletters

Not sure which course is right for you?

Use the flowcharts on the following pages to help you choose the right course. Please note - this is a guide only. Refer to the NESA guidelines or contact us. Students are subject to an initial eligibility check by NSW School of Languages. Eligibility is monitored throughout students' studies.

Stage 5
100 OR 200 HOURS?

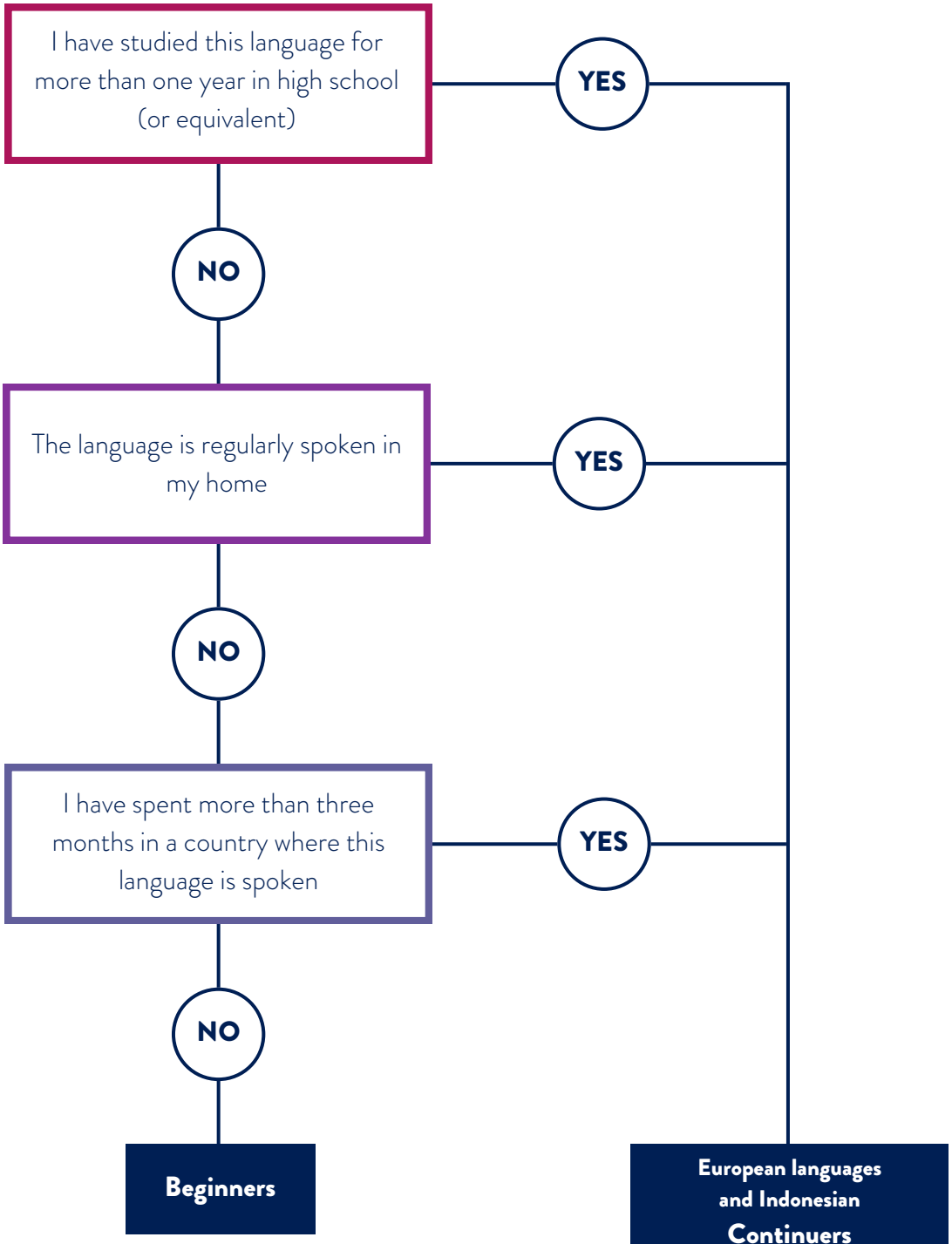
YEAR 9

- Year 9 courses are two-year courses and are 200 hours across Years 9 and 10. If you choose not to continue the language course in Year 10, you will receive 100 hours on your RoSA for that course.

YEAR 10

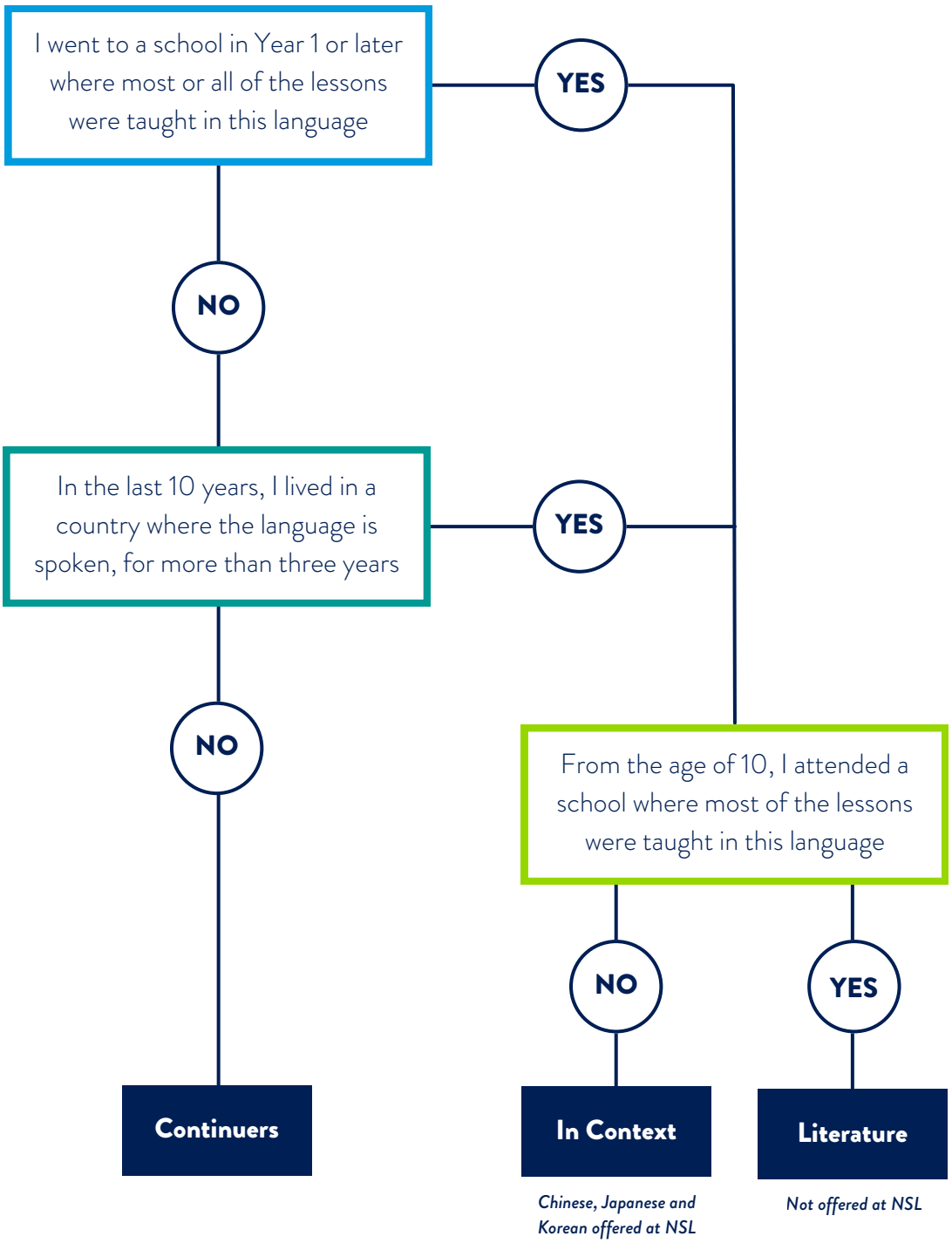
- If you continue the course from Year 9 and complete Year 10, you will receive 200 hours on your RoSA for that course.
- If you start a language course in Year 10 with no background or prior learning, you will complete the Year 10 100 hours course, which is equivalent to the Stage 5 Year 9 course. You will receive 100 hours on your RoSA.
- If you start a language course in Year 10 with background, you will complete the second year of the Stage 5 course Year 10 200 hours and will receive 100 hours on your RoSA.
- If you start a language course in Year 10 with prior learning elsewhere in Year 9, you will complete the second year of the Stage 5 course Year 10 200 hours and will receive 200 hours on your RoSA.

Stage 6
BEGINNERS OR CONTINUERS?



For Chinese, Japanese and Korean at a level other than Beginners, please now complete the Continuers, In Context for Chinese, Japanese and Korean flowchart on the next page.

Stage 6
CONTINUERS OR IN CONTEXT FOR CHINESE, JAPANESE AND KOREAN?



Key enrolment dates for CURRENT STUDENTS

4 SEPTEMBER 2026

Intention to Continue email sent to the Supervisors of current Year 11 students.

22 SEPTEMBER 2026

Closing date for Intention to Continue for students in Year 11 moving into Year 12.

23 OCTOBER 2026

Closing date for Year 12 Extension Expression of Interest.

27 NOVEMBER 2026

Intention to Continue email sent to the Supervisors of current Year 9 students.

4 DECEMBER 2026

Closing date for Intention to Continue for students in Year 9 moving into Year 10.

Key enrolment dates for NEW STUDENTS

23 JULY 2026

2027 Enrolment Forms available on our website. Enrolment Forms will be accepted by NSL today via the DEMS School Portal, provided the School Agreement has been received and approved.

6 NOVEMBER 2026

Closing date for new enrolments for Years 9, 10 and 11.

12 FEBRUARY 2027

Closing date for late enrolments - any enrolments received from the 13 February 2027 onwards must have approval from the Director.

Enrolment PROCESS

Student/Supervisor discuss whether distance education is an appropriate choice for the student and complete the eligibility flowcharts to determine which course is most suitable for the student.

Supervisor to read over the Supervisors' resources on our website for information on the DEMS School Portal and Supervisors' Information Booklet.

Download the Enrolment Form from our website.

Students and parents/carers fill out their sections of the Enrolment Form digitally and email it back to the school.

The student's school fills out the annual School Agreement digitally and uploads it to the DEMS School Portal as soon as possible. No enrolment forms can be processed until the School Agreement has been received and approved.

Supervisor checks all sections of the Enrolment Form are filled in correctly and that no information is missing or incorrect.

Supervisor uploads the Enrolment Form to the DEMS School Portal for Year 12 by 11 September 2026, and for Years 9, 10 and 11 by 06 November 2026.

Supervisor to check emails regularly in case there are any requests from NSL for additional information and for confirmation of approved enrolments.

Prior to the course commencing, the student's NSL teacher will send the student a welcome email with information on how to access online lessons and how to book in for weekly speaking lessons.

Additional INFORMATION

CAMPUS AND LOCATION

Our campus is located in Petersham, in Sydney's inner west, on the site of the original Petersham Public School and Petersham Girls' High School. In more recent years, TAFE NSW used the site as its Petersham campus.

Our campus features the original 1878 school buildings, as well as newer additions, and recently underwent a large-scale renovation prior to NSW School of Languages moving to the site in 2018.

Our teaching and administration staff have dedicated faculty areas, and each language has its own dedicated classroom. We have several specialist rooms, including a video recording studio, a sound recording studio, and a classroom kitchen.

We are within 5 minutes walking distance between Petersham and Lewisham train stations, with many bus stops nearby as well. We do not have onsite parking for parents/carers and students. However, there is ample street parking around our school. Entry into our campus is via either the West Street or Gordon Street pedestrian gates.

FACE-TO-FACE LESSON DAYS

Face-to-face lesson days generally occur once per course, per school term and are held at our campus. All students are encouraged to attend, however, this may not be possible for out-of-metro area students.

Face-to-face lesson days allow students to come together and meet their peers and teachers for an immersive and enjoyable full day of language learning and other cultural activities.

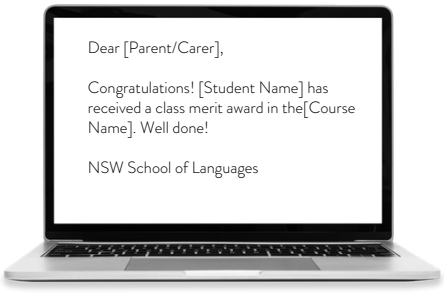
We do not have a canteen on-site, so students must bring their own snacks, lunch and water bottles. On occasion, lunch will be organised for a whole class group and will be pre-arranged and ordered in advance with the NSL teachers running the face-to-face lesson day.

Student
AWARD SYSTEM

RECEIVING MERITS

Students earn a Merit for a variety of positive actions including;

- Outstanding effort
- Application
- Improvement
- Commitment
- Lesson day effort
- Course work submission
- Assessment result
- Independent learning skills



Teachers enter a Merit on our school database (DEMS) and a notification is automatically sent to parents/carers.

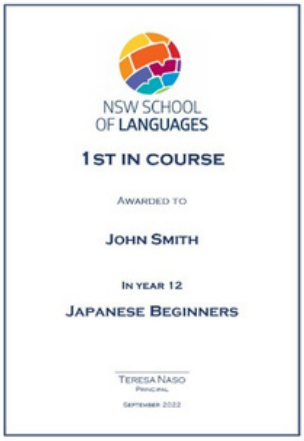
MERIT SYSTEM

Ten Merits earns the student a Principal's Award that is printed and sent to the student via their school at the end of Terms 2, 3 and 4.

1ST, 2ND AND 3RD PLACE IN COURSE AWARDS

These awards are produced at the end of the school year (September for Year 12 and December for Years 9-11) and posted to the student's school to be presented during their school assemblies, presentation or awards ceremonies.

1st, 2nd and 3rd in Course awards are awarded in recognition of academic excellence to students who achieve the top mark in the class (based on total marks for the year).



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Do you have further questions?
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