

## The Hon Ray Williams MP

Member for Castle Hill Minister for Multiculturalism and Minister for Disability Services

## MEDIA RELEASE

## **6 October 2017**

## FUNDING FOR CASTLE HILL COMMUNITY LANGUAGE CLASSES

Community-run language classes in Italian, Portuguese, Maltese, and Chinese will share in more than \$4.5 million in funding from the NSW Government.

The Community Language Schools Program provides funding to community organisations to help establish and run language schools in the local area.

Classes are run for school age children with non-English speaking backgrounds to maintain their heritage languages.

Following are the organisations who will receive funding to support or commence language classes in the local community.

Co.As.It. Italian Association of Assistance - Italian classes at Castle Hill High School and St Madeline's Primary School.

The Hills Chinese School Inc - Chinese classes at Kellyville Public School and Sherwood Ridge Public School.

Association for Brazilian Bilingual Children's Development Inc - Portuguese classes at Samuel Gilbert Public School.

Akkademja Maltija Ta' New South Wales Inc - Maltese classes at Rouse Hill Public School.

Shine Chinese Community School Inc at Wesley Castle Hill Uniting Church and Sydney Northwest Chinese School Inc at Beaumont Hills Public School have received equal funding to start running community classes in Chinese.

Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams welcomed the funding, saying it will support language diversity in the local community.

"Community language schools play an important role in helping young people maintain strong links to their heritage and cultural identity," Mr Williams said. "I'm proud to support our community language schools and the work of their dedicated volunteers.

"Our community's diversity is one of our great treasures, and this is one way the NSW Government can help in fostering and celebrating that diversity," Mr Williams said.

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