





ANSWERS:



LANGUAGE  
DIVERSITY



#EducatedVote17




## 4. Language Diversity

How/would you?	Set up a national languages policy?	Make Te Reo Māori a core subject for all school students?	Improve support for English language learning for new migrants, including those on temporary visas?	Support maintenance of community languages?
	ACT supports the decentralisation of decision-making, giving principals, boards of trustees and communities more control over how they run their schools. With their local knowledge they are best placed to decide what is right for their students.	ACT values Te Reo Māori but is opposed to compulsion as it often leads to resentment of the compulsory subject. ACT believes that parents and kids should be able to choose if they want to learn Te Reo Māori or if they want another language like Samoan, Chinese, Spanish, French etc.	ACT is a pro-immigration party, honouring our heritage as a nation of immigrants. ACT supports empowering community-based language initiatives. This has the important spillover effect of improving integration into New Zealand society.	ACT welcomes a culturally diverse New Zealand. ACT's Partnership Schools-Kura Hourua policy has allowed community groups to start schools that celebrate Pacifica and Māori culture. We look forward to opening more of these types of schools.
	The Greens will work with groups such as Te Taurawhiri o Te Reo Māori, the Royal Society, and COMET Auckland to create a National Languages Policy which prioritises Te Reo and also supports Pasifika heritage and community languages, and then all languages spoken in Aotearoa.	We have announced a universal Te Reo in schools policy up to Year 10 and are about to announce the results of consultation on how capacity can be built to achieve this.	Unfortunately, the government hasn't done a good job of making sure that English classes paid for through the migrant levy are actually being used, with around half of the ESOL tuition fees going unused. We will work with migrant advocates to ensure that this money is being spent on frontline services to assist with migrant learning needs. We've proposed universal migrant and newcomer orientations so one option is to deliver ESOL lessons as part of this orientation process.	The National Languages Policy needs to have a strategy and funding stream for community languages support and targets for achieving the strategy. The Green Party is committed to a tolerant, diverse and open multicultural Aotearoa. Being able to communicate with each other is absolutely key to achieving this goal.

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	<p>Labour recognises the enormous value of second language learning. Our first priority will be ensuring that Te Reo Māori is universally available in all New Zealand schools. We are also committed to ensuring that Pacific languages are supported and nurtured within our education system. Over time we will work towards establishing a national languages policy.</p>	<p>We are not proposing to make Te Reo Māori compulsory, but we will ensure that all students have the opportunity to learn the basics of Te Reo in ECE and primary schools and become fluent at secondary school. We will remedy the shortage of teachers fluent in Te Reo Māori through targeted scholarships and professional development opportunities for existing teachers.</p>	<p>Labour will re-establish dedicated funding for adult education programmes such as night classes. ESOL will be a priority area for access to this funding.</p>	<p>Labour will make increased funding available for community language resources in schools.</p>
	<p>Yes, the Māori Party wants mainstream classrooms to speak the language of our tupuna, to include Māori ways of knowing in the curriculum and to hold our tupuna up as role models of academic excellence.</p>	<p>Absolutely, Aotearoa will be far better off by having an understanding of our history, and also an appreciation of and respect for the Māori language.</p>	<p>The Māori Party believes in implementing kaupapa Māori as a remedy to the continuing failures of the western education system. We will eliminate immigration policies that discriminate on the grounds of race, religion or culture and introduce a Te Tiriti o Waitangi programme as a prerequisite to gaining citizenship, meeting language and settlement requirements.</p>	<p>We support immigration policy that respects Māori as tangata whenua of Aotearoa, the rights guaranteed to them under Te Tiriti o Waitangi and acknowledges the mana and mātauranga that people immigrating to Aotearoa bring with them. Our priority is to promote wider recognition of Te Reo Māori as the first and official language but we do also advocate for the maintenance of all the diverse cultures and languages in Aotearoa.</p>

	<p>We recently released a second languages policy. All primary school children will be given access to learning a second language. We will set 10 priority languages in consultation with the community. These could include Mandarin, Māori, NZ Sign Language, Spanish and other community languages, including Pasifika languages. Through additional funding for teachers, language assistants and online resources we will provide children with up to 30 hours a year in language tuition. We will invest \$120 million over four years to grow the language skills that our young people need to compete in a global world.</p>			
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	<p>We do not have a policy on this currently.</p>	<p>For the last five years New Zealand First has been working with the Resource Teachers of Māori and has committed in policy to support the delivery of the Te Reo Māori progressions from Year One to Year 13 in all English Medium State Schools. The language will be woven through every lesson every day.</p>	<p>NZ First will support increasing the budget for Adult and Community Education and ensure the money currently banked with TEC from the pre-purchased English language vouchers will be used for those English language lessons. We will require the local provider of ESOL to make contact with the new migrant to ensure they are fully informed as to when and where they can receive what they have paid for. We would look to lift the current cap on ESOL support of five years from our state school system.</p>	<p>We will look at how ECE equity funding could be used more effectively support heritage language learning by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing the number of teachers speaking Pasifika languages</li> <li>• Encouraging more Pasifika ECE services teaching in a Pasifika language for over 50 percent of the time. We would also:</li> <li>• Establish Pasifika language ECE best practice models in consultation with the community</li> <li>• Work with the community to encourage more Pacific language immersion ECEs</li> <li>• Strongly recommend that activities to promote Pasifika participation in ECE include a specific language focus.</li> </ul>

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	<p>The Opportunities Party believes we need a written constitution to protect rights including cultures and languages of the Treaty of Waitangi signatories, and all ethnic groups. Māori needs to be afforded the same rights as English. That includes the requirement it be taught in all schools.</p>	<p>Compulsory in all primary schools.</p>	<p>TOP is strongly pro-immigration but believes a fundamental reform is needed to focus on attracting highly-skilled migrants. Change the points system to reflect the importance of salary level, English language skills, and the ability of migrants to contribute to the economy. Ensure the market rather than the bureaucrats makes the final selection from those eligible.</p>	