



Media release

Adult learning peak body welcomes literacy boost from Australian and South Australian Governments

A new \$14m funding boost will have a significant impact on increasing the numeracy, literacy and digital skills of South Australians.

Adult Learning Australia (ALA), the national peak body for the adult and community education sector, congratulates the Australian and South Australian Governments for reaching a new agreement which will see:

- > More than \$5 million in funding from the Albanese Government under the National Skills Agreement to lift literacy, numeracy and digital skills across South Australia and deliver increased access to adult and community education
- > A further \$9 million investment by the Malinauskas Government over three years in organisations providing free-free training places in adult community education projects.

ALA CEO Jenny Macaffer said this agreement will ensure more people in South Australia have access to quality education and training, particularly adults who need assistance in the crucial areas of literacy, numeracy and digital skills development.

“Investing in the adult and community education sector enables adult learners to develop literacy, numeracy and digital literacy skills which supports them to go on to further education, training and employment and to improve their life opportunities,” Ms Macaffer said.

“Such access to lifelong learning also enables social and community connections and mental and physical well-being benefits”.

Ms Macaffer said while the agreement will have important benefits for South Australians, there is a strong need for a national lifelong learning policy to ensure that all Australians have access to education and training opportunities throughout life.

“Lifelong learning is key to tackling Australia’s social and economic challenges, and we need investment to build the sector’s capacity and ensure learners outside mainstream education pathways are not left behind.”

About Adult Learning Australia

Adult Learning Australia, operating for 65 years, is the national peak body for the nonprofit adult and community education (ACE) sector.

Media contact: www.ala.asn.au or call 03 9689 8623 for more information.

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