



AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF TESOL ASSOCIATIONS (ACTA)

REFUGEE YOUTH EAL CONSULTANCY GROUP

An important ACTA initiative

Do you teach students aged (approximately) 16 to 30 who have a refugee or refugee-like background?

Or do you work with teachers who teach refugee youth?

Would you be interested in meeting and working with other educators who are committed to advancing quality English language provision for refugee youth in schools, vocational education (VET), universities and community settings?

Can you give some of your precious time to assisting ACTA in developing our advocacy to better meet the English language learning needs of refugee youth in Australia?

ACTA is setting up a new Consultancy Group tasked to improve our knowledge about the learning needs and aspirations of refugee youth who are learning English as an additional language, and to develop policy proposals and provide leadership in advocacy for these young people. The Group will seek to collaborate closely with other groups with related aims.

The co-convenors will be **Dr Sally Baker** and, for the interim, **Dr Helen Moore, AM**.

- Sally is Associate Professor, Migration & Education at the Australian National University, and Co-Chair of the [Refugee Education Special Interest Group](#) (RESIG). She has a background as an adult English language teacher, working in the ESOL program in the UK and in the AMEP in Newcastle, before becoming an academic and teacher educator.
- Helen is ACTA Vice-President and President of ATESOL ACT. Her background is in TESOL teacher education and TESOL-related advocacy, policy and research in adult and school settings. She co-convenes the ACTA Indigenous EAL/D Consultancy Group. She will act as interim co-convenor until the ACTA AGM, after which it is hoped another Councillor will take up this role.

The first meeting will be on 16th April 2024 from 2–4pm AEST (fully online).

This meeting will commence with a general consultation on the mission/vision statement for the new CG, as well as scoping ideas for ongoing advocacy.

The second half (4–5pm) will be co-facilitated with the Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network, and will revisit their [consultation on the AMEP](#) and multicultural young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds. This will form the basis for a meeting between the Department of Home Affairs and MYAN, RESIG, and ACTA in May 2024 (date TBC). MYAN will also bring two youth multicultural youth advocates to this meeting to speak to their experiences of English language learning.

CG Membership is open to members of state and territory TESOL associations who are ACTA members. To find out how to join your local association, go to [Contact Us – Australian Council of TESOL Associations](#)

If you have further questions about the purpose of the group, please contact Dr. Sally Baker sally.baker@anu.edu.au

If you would like to participate in this ACTA Consultancy Group, please contact Susanne at administration@tesol.org.au
Please include brief details about your experience and interest in English for refugee youth.



Refugee Education
Special Interest Group