



AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION
BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN

MEDIA RELEASE

ASEAN–Australia BRIDGE School Partnerships Program: Second Cohort Announced

Strengthening educational ties across Australia and Southeast Asia

Bandar Seri Begawan, 02 December 2025 – The Australian High Commission in Brunei Darussalam is pleased to share that the ASEAN–Australia Centre and Asialink Education have announced the selection of 18 new schools for the second cohort of the ASEAN–Australia BRIDGE School Partnerships Program.

This new cohort brings together primary and secondary schools from across Australia and Southeast Asia, continuing the strong momentum of the inaugural group launched earlier this year and joining the 38 schools already participating in the network.

Among the selected schools is Brunei Darussalam’s Maktab Sains Paduka Seri Begawan Sultan, representing the country in this regional program that champions inclusive education, innovative teaching approaches, and intercultural learning.

The BRIDGE School Partnerships Program connects educators and students across nine ASEAN Member States and Australia, fostering collaboration, mutual understanding and long-term learning relationships. Over the next year, participating schools will engage in professional learning, virtual collaboration, reciprocal study visits, and four virtual student workshops designed to deepen people-to-people links across the region.

Southeast Asian educators will visit Australia in March 2026, with Australian educators travelling to their partner schools in Southeast Asia, including Brunei, in April 2026.

Lisa Hayman, Acting Director of Asialink Education, said:

“This second cohort reflects the growing enthusiasm among schools to build meaningful connections across our region. We are thrilled to welcome these new partnerships and look forward to the innovative learning experiences they will create for their students and school communities.”

Fiona Hoggart, Head of the ASEAN-Australia Centre, said in her remarks to the second cohort: *“Schools prepare our future thinkers and leaders. Classrooms are crucial places for igniting curiosity and shaping global citizens. Through BRIDGE, we hope the connections you make will have a lasting, positive impact on your students and communities.”*

Participating Schools – Second Cohort **Australian Schools:**

- Alyangula Area School, NT
- Hills International College, QLD
- Holy Rosary School / Our Lady of Good Counsel School, WA
- Mungindi Central School, NSW
- Oxley College, NSW
- Plympton International College, SA
- Port Lincoln High School, SA
- St Mary's Primary Laidley, QLD
- St Michael's Lutheran Primary, SA

ASEAN Schools:

- Angsilapittayakom School, Thailand
- American University of Phnom Penh High School - Foxcroft Academy (AUPPHS-FA), Cambodia
- Binh Phú Lower Secondary School, Vietnam
- EBC Asumau Remexio, Timor-Leste
- **Maktab Sains Paduka Seri Begawan Sultan, Brunei**
- Mee Toh School, Singapore
- Phonmee Secondary School, Laos
- SMK Pulau Ketam, Malaysia
- SMK Takis Papar, Malaysia

The ASEAN–Australia BRIDGE School Partnerships Program is an initiative of the ASEAN–Australia Centre and is implemented by Asialink Education (formerly Asia Education Foundation) at the University of Melbourne.

For more information: <https://asialink.unimelb.edu.au/education/program/asean-bridge>

About the ASEAN-Australia Centre

The ASEAN-Australia Centre was announced by the Prime Minister of Australia at the ASEAN-Australia Special Summit in March 2024, and has been operational since 1 July 2024. The Centre supports the Australian Government’s commitment to deepen engagement with Southeast Asia for a peaceful, stable and prosperous region.

For more information visit: aseanaustraliacentre.org.au.

About Asialink Education

Asialink Education (formerly Asia Education Foundation) empowers school leaders, teachers, students and young professionals with global perspectives, cultural understanding and relationships to navigate a shared future in our region.

Established in 1992, we have been a trusted partner of the Australian Government, state and territory Governments, and philanthropic organisations for 30+ years. Working in the primary, secondary and tertiary education sectors, and with young professionals, our

programs draw on our trusted regional networks to provide life-changing opportunities for building Asia Capability, knowledge, skills, partnerships and networks to engage across our diverse region effectively.

For more information visit: asialink.unimelb.edu.au/education.

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