

PHAROS ALLIANCE NSW IN
PARTNERSHIP WITH THE GREEK
AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY



Pharos Alliance NSW Strategic Plan

A strategic response that safeguards Modern Greek language learning in
NSW through practical initiatives and reforms guided by the Pharos
framework.

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Strategic Plan: Pharos Alliance NSW

Purpose

To design a strategic response to the decline of learning and practical use of Modern Greek in NSW using the Pharos framework (developed by Professor Joseph Lo Bianco). The project will deliver practical initiatives and advocate for structural reforms to safeguard Greek language teaching across schools and communities.

Context

Modern Greek language programs in NSW are facing serious challenges:

- Enrolments are declining across primary, secondary, and tertiary levels
- There is a shortage of qualified teachers
- Younger generations have weaker ties to Greek language and culture
- Language education is being deprioritised in favour of other subjects

The vision

Our aim is to develop an overall vision for the revitalisation of Modern Greek in NSW as a living language for future generations by building Capacity, creating Opportunity and inspiring Desire (the COD model) to learn and use the language. We believe that learning the language will enrich students' cognitive, social and emotional development.

Rationale

- NSW is a multicultural state with a large Greek-speaking population
- Modern Greek is part of Australia's linguistic and cultural heritage
- Evidence supports early language learning and curriculum integration
- Current policy and school structures often hinder Greek language continuity

Recommendation

Under the Pharos framework (Capacity, Opportunity, Desire), the project proposes:

1. Capacity – Build Resources and Infrastructure

Develop the infrastructure, resources, and workforce needed to support and promote Greek language education in schools.

2. Opportunity – Create Access and Participation

Promote opportunities for learners and speakers of Modern Greek to use the language in natural situations by engaging with the Greek community.

3. Desire – Inspire Cultural and Personal Connection

Foster a motivation and personal investment in learning and using Greek in a variety of natural settings. For example, by working with Greek community organisations to promote attractive and accessible cultural events and activities, that act as viable learning opportunities.

Summary of proposed actions

- Publicly share data and success stories to demonstrate community need
- Develop detailed proposals for:
 - Provision of professional learning opportunities for educators
 - Integration of Greek into extracurricular programs and excursions
 - More out-of-hours learning through community schools
 - Development of a NSW Modern Greek state languages policy

Next steps

- Begin data collection and community engagement
- Assess teacher supply, curriculum gaps, and HSC enrolments
- Launch the NSW Greek language social media platform
- Engage key education and other stakeholders to implement reforms