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DFES CELEBRATES HARMONY WEEK 2024 - EVERYONE BELONGS



Western Australia (WA) Harmony Week is about inclusion, diversity, and respect. This year's theme is 'Everyone Belongs'.

Did you know that WA is one of the most culturally and linguistically diverse States in Australia? In WA, more than 32.2% of Western Australians were born overseas. People from more than 200 different countries live, work and study in Western Australia, speak as many as 270 languages and identify with more than 100 religions.

At [DFES](#), 23.1% of our staff were born overseas, with 10.6% being fluent in a language other than English. DFES is committed to valuing our culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) workforce and the community we serve, as outlined in our [Multicultural Action Plan](#).

Celebrating Harmony Week is one way we show appreciation for our cultural, religious, linguistic and ethnic diversity, while recognising that there are still barriers to remove to improve inclusivity in our workplace and community.

With events happening across WA, we encourage you to check out the [Office of Multicultural Interests](#) for events and resources that you may participate in and if you wish, create your very own event.

This year DFES is celebrating Harmony week through in-person and online activities:

1. DFES Harmony Day networking event that includes the launch of a video featuring our staff at the Cockburn ESC on Tuesday, 19 March 2024, from



2:00-3:00pm, with an afternoon tea served. All are welcome.

Videos are also available for viewing online at the links below for DFES staff:



[Hello video](#)



[Goodbye video](#)



[Thank you video](#)

2. Contribute to DFES' first ever digital cookbook, 'Dishes from Every Shore.' We encourage you to [submit a recipe](#). The cookbook will be available for download.
3. Take part in a Harmony Week-themed quiz through the Volunteer Hub.
4. Community Preparedness Directorate is launching a new page on the DFES external website for our CaLD communities. This page will display translated factsheets, brochures and videos in 18 different languages including AUSLAN. Check it out from the 19 March when it goes live.

To find out more why inclusion matters visit the [Inclusion at DFES](#) intranet page.

CRAIG WATERS AFSM
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OPERATIONS