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**North Asia CAPE and Korean Education Centre sign MOU to support Korean language learning, education initiatives in NZ schools**

The North Asia Centre of Asia-Pacific Excellence (CAPE) and the Korean Education Centre in New Zealand have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to promote Korean language education in New Zealand primary and secondary schools.

The MOU reflects the North Asia CAPE's commitment to helping New Zealanders build strong and enduring economic and cultural relationships with Greater China, Korea and Japan.

Currently, 40 New Zealand schools offer Korean language classes.

The MOU comprises an agreement to co-fund \$96,000 to 10 schools teaching Korean language classes, enabling the selected schools to double their Korean class hours from 120 to 240 hours a year.

The MOU also includes a commitment to support a range of cooperative projects and education programmes to promote Korean language education. These initiatives include conferences for Korean language learners and teachers, a Korean speech contest, and promotion of the international exchange of education and cooperation between New Zealand and South Korea.

In signing the MOU, Professor Paul Clark, Director, North Asia CAPE noted that language is at the heart of authentic and respectful cross-cultural relationships.

"The North Asia CAPE is mandated to build New Zealanders' skills in engaging with the countries of East Asia. Language learning is a vital part of getting to know other cultures and societies. We are delighted to help grow the number of Kiwi students studying Korean in our schools."

Director of the Korean Education Centre in New Zealand, Ilhyeong Jeong stated: "This MOU with the North Asia CAPE means that we have ensured the sustainability and stability of Korean language education in New Zealand. I look forward to invigorating New Zealand-Korea educational exchanges and cooperation through the medium of Korean language education."

[Find out more about the North Asia CAPE](#)

[Find out more about the Korean Education Centre in New Zealand](#)