

| s m a i l

Being a language assistant for schools in Geraldton has been a valuable experience in my life. Meeting new people, interacting with teachers and students and being part of the educational system are an astonishing steps towards my future career. Furthermore, I am always thankful for the chance given by Balai Bahasa Indonesia Perth and Department of Education Western Australia to introduce the culture and tradition as well as the usage of Bahasa Indonesia through classroom activities, such as cooking, dancing, singing and traditional games. I do appreciate the warmest welcome from all staff, teachers, and parents for making my time more enjoyable serving as a Language Assistant in Western Australia.

My Story of Being Language Assistant:



I am Ismail, from Belopa, South Sulawesi. I am a language assistant 2018 for three different schools in Geraldton, namely Waggrakine Primary School, Wandina Primary School and John Willcock College.

Helping teachers and students in learning Bahasa Indonesia is my main task. Providing cultural contents and showing the authentic inputs for the lesson are two crucial parts that I have done. We are dancing, singing, cooking and watching video during the lesson to get more insight about Indonesia.

I prepare the material under the teachers' supervision by making laminated cards/deskmat, producing board games and copying the worksheet for some classes. I made a super gigantic map of Indonesia put along the windows in Waggrakine PS to ensure students know that Bali is only one small island compared with the rest of Indonesia.





Other than that, I am happy to be part of the school community participating beyond classroom activities. I partook in a lot of fun and memorable event in my schools, for example, dancing with students in NAIDOC Week, using traditional costume for Book Week, attending swimming carnival, athletic carnival and lots of assemblies, and celebrating Indonesia Independence by playing Indonesian games with all students.

Outside schools, I find Geraldton as the lovely and enjoyable city to spend times during weekends. The countless events for free during my year have made me overwhelmed with the city. Some of the big festivals, such as Wind on Water Festival, Big Sky Writers Festival, Chapman Valley Show, and many more, have written awesome notes in my memories. In addition, the writing club, Coral Coast Writers, and the Harriers Running Club coloured my weekends by ensuring I met new people, kept a healthier life, and explored many new places across Geraldton-Greenough.



The people of Gero, nick name for Geraldton, are always warm hearted and kindly interacted with me. Not much different from Indonesia, where people are coming from multi-cultural background, Gero embraced me with the harmony of people from different countries. My new family, the Indonesian community, mentor teachers, landlady, running club and the Muslim community all helped me a lot to live my day, feel at home, and make Gero the best place to be remembered.

Being language assistant is a life-changing experience because the chance to be a teacher in English speaking country is once in a blue moon opportunity for Indonesian youngster.