Acknowledgement to Country

House Keeping – Toilets, Fire Exits & Phones on Silent

Welcome & Apologies

Chair & Minutes

Round Table Introductions

Confirmation of Previous (August)

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Presentation // Tim Keenan from NSW Dept of Education AEDC.

What is the AEDC? The AEDC collects in Kindergarten. Data has a practical application. 90% of brain development happens in the first 4-5 years – this can be influenced by a number of environmental factors. Early investment in the first years is very valuable and equated on a 2 for 1 return. 49% of all Australians now have at least one parent born overseas. Children’s learning and development happens before they are even born. Strong loving engagement helps build strong executive function in children. National wide data collection 95% of children in first year of school. Early childhood setting doesn’t cover all children. AEDC highlights what is working well and where there are of greater need. 2018 was the 4th full collection of data. This is a Canadian program which was first seen in Perth in 2002 and has been adapted to make sure it is culturally appropriate. AEDC is now rolled out across the world. Australia is the only country that uses the census to collect data from the whole of country. The census consists of 100 questions in 5 domains of development with 16 subsets and is completed by teachers. Reported at different community levels – on track, at risk and developmentally vulnerable. Teachers are expected to have a knowledge of the child. Top 75% are on track. Bottom 10% developmentally vulnerable. As a lead indicator it is quite good at identifying future. Data shows that children that don’t attend playgroup are 1.5 times more likely to be vulnerable. AEDC can predict how children will perform in the NAPLAN as soon as a child registers in any one domain they will show perform poorly. Early detection of medical issues and other outcomes for adults can be accurately predicted at age 3. It can also predict mental health outcomes. NSW collected for 95.2% of
kindergarten children – independent schools make up most of the 4.8% not collected. ABS also collects data. SEIFA gives economic data. Data explorer on the AEDC website gives information for specific LGAs - easy to use. Info can be downloaded in a pdf. Including graphs and maps. Check out resources in the **powerpoint** – list here. Eastwood & Ryde are doing a pilot when noticed that after 8 weeks there was a huge drop off from visits to the child and family health nurses - FACS are funding full developmental checks when children reach school.

I would like to acknowledge the Dharawal people, the traditional custodians of this land and pay my respects to Elders both past and present.

**OVERVIEW**

- About me
- What is the AEDC?
- The 2018 collection
- Looking at the data
- Useful resources
- Q&A

**WHAT HAPPENS IN THE EARLY YEARS MATTERS: FOUR CONVERGING STRANDS OF RESEARCH**

- Brain development
- Early childhood influences (Ecology)
- Early experiences shape development (Life Course)
- Invest early for the future (Economics)

**EXECUTIVE FUNCTION**

Executive function and self-regulation skills are the mental processes that enable us to plan, focus attention, remember instructions, and juggle multiple tasks successfully.

**AUSTRALIAN EARLY DEVELOPMENT CENSUS (AEDC)**

A snapshot of young children's development across Australian communities by the time they start school.
A MEASURE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT ACROSS FIVE DOMAINS

Social competence/Emotional Maturity
- Would you say this child is able to play with various children?
- Would you say this child follows turn and instruction?
- Would you say this child listens attentively?
- Would you say this child demonstrates self-control?
- Would you say this child is able to adjust to changes in routine?
- Would you say this child is able to help someone who is hurting or upset?
- Would you say this child is disobedient, has temper tantrums, appears worried, cries a lot?

Communication skills and general knowledge
- Would you say this child has sufficient language skills to participate in group activities?
- Would you say this child is able to read at grade level?
- Would you say this child is curious about the world?


AEDC PREDICTED BY
- Perinatal predictors
  - Gestational age
  - Birth weight and other birth measurements
  - Mother’s age
- Marital status
  - Mother’s occupation
  - Father’s occupation
  - Smoking in pregnancy

EARLY CHILDHOOD

LEAD AND LAG INDICATOR

What does it tell us about the future?

AEDC PREDICTED BY
- Perinatal predictors
- Preschool attendance (reduced vulnerability)

AEDC PREDICTED BY
- Perinatal predictors
- Preschool attendance (reduced vulnerability)
- Playgroup attendance (reduced vulnerability)

AEDC PREDICTED BY
- Perinatal predictors
- Preschool attendance (reduced vulnerability)
- Playgroup attendance (reduced vulnerability)
- Child protection notifications
Macarthur Child & Family Interagency - Minutes

Afternoon Tea

Agency Updates/info share

- Lifeline out of the shadows walk 7.00 rego for 7.30 star 14th of Sept Harrington park oval – Lifeline Suicide Awareness.
- Counselling vacancies at Anglicare.
- MYFS playgroups
- ACT/Inclusion – 1.5 local café networking for educator but has a lot of interest from workers at the Bargo nursery café
- KU Macquarie Fields Playgroups
- Defence are having a mindful art workshop
- Doggy day out Wollondilly dilly wanderer being rebranding and will have a more generalist function. Wollondilly council partnering with lifeline for the wheels fest.
- Police open day at Narellan stalls maybe available 31st of August contact Narellan police – Greg Lowdon

Next meeting:
1st of October
Yummy Café 80 Woodhouse Drive Ambarvale