



fkaCS Information Sheet: Cultural Inclusion Support

fkaCS Cultural Inclusion Support deepens educators' capacity in the provision of culturally competent pedagogy and the ability to engage meaningfully with children and families for whom there is no shared language.

The early years are recognised as the foundation years for children's development. In particular, the first six years are crucial for young children in developing their first language and cultural identity. Secure and trusting relationships between children and early childhood professionals, including those who speak languages other than English, are essential for children to feel valued and accepted in all early childhood settings. Learning English as an additional language requires educators to think about the natural communication needs of children and the stages of second language acquisition.

fkaCS support is directly aligned with the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF), the National Quality Standards and is underpinned by the United Nations Convention of the rights of the child.

We will support you as you develop your cultural competence and an admiration of difference to ensure your pedagogy and practice respects multiple ways of being and understanding and children are supported in learning English as an additional language.

fkaCS offers a holistic program of support that covers:

- WHY it is important to think about cultural inclusion (including the relationship to the VEYLDF);
- WHAT needs to happen to provide and demonstrate culturally inclusive practice; and
- HOW to implement changes in practice, reduce barriers to participation and celebrate our diverse community.

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OUR OFFERINGS

Pedagogy and practice and home language support	Tailored Cultural Inclusion Implementation support	The fkaCS Multicultural Resource Centre (MRC)
Free telephone and electronic support and advice (for Victorian state funded Kindergartens)	Community language support	Access to multicultural resources and bilingual books to support literacy, learning and intentional teaching
Online membership resources, guides and fact sheets	Onsite facilitated conversations at team meetings	MRC Outreach Program: delivering books and resources to your service once a term
Cultural inclusion planning: reflecting on the needs of multilingual and newly arrived children and families and building a curriculum that reflects Victoria's diverse community	Onsite customised Professional Learning sessions	Consultation services to set up a centre-based library for children and families and support in using resources and designing spaces that teach
	Onsite coaching and mentoring	
	Regional calendared group training	

Accessing *fkaCS* Cultural Inclusion Support

SERVICE TYPE	PROGRAM TYPE	HOW <i>fkaCS</i> CAN HELP!
Victorian State Funded Kindergartens in receipt of their School Readiness Funding	School Readiness Program of Support	<p>You can include an <i>fkaCS</i> Cultural Inclusion Support Package or support in building a Bilingual Library of Books to your Ready for School Annual Plan.</p> <p>We recommend that Kindergartens consider the number of hours they wish to commit to Cultural Inclusion to include in the Ready for School Annual Plan and touch base with <i>fkaCS</i> to determine the best way to utilise these hours and design the right support to meet your needs.</p> <p>> Visit our website to find out more: www.fka.org.au/cultural-inclusion-support/school-readiness-program</p>
Australian Government Approved Early Childhood Education and Care Services	<i>fkaCS</i> Cultural Inclusion Support	<p>You can apply for Innovative Solutions Funding from the Inclusion Development Fund (IDF) Manager to purchase support as part of the Inclusion Support Programme (ISP).</p> <p>> Visit this website for further information: www.education.gov.au/inclusion-support-programme-isp</p> <p>You may wish to apply for Innovative Solutions Funding to contribute to/cover the costs of Cultural Inclusion and Bilingual Support.</p> <p>> Contact the Victorian Inclusion Agency: 1800 177 017 www.viac.com.au</p>
Victorian Playgroups	<i>fkaCS</i> Cultural Inclusion Support	<p>We have a pool of Bilingual Workers in a range of locations across Victoria, speaking languages other than English that are common within the community.</p> <p>Bilingual Workers can assist Playgroup Facilitators who do not have a shared language with families attending the service to effectively communicate and engage in the playgroup.</p> <p>> Download the Supported Playgroups Booking Request Form online via: www.fka.org.au/cultural-inclusion-support/accessing-support</p> <p>> Please contact <i>fkaCS</i> to discuss your Cultural Inclusion Support needs: culturalinclusion@fka.org.au 03 9428 4471</p>
All Victorian ECEC Services	<i>fkaCS</i> Cultural Inclusion Support	<p>> Please contact <i>fkaCS</i> to discuss your Cultural Inclusion Support needs: culturalinclusion@fka.org.au 03 9428 4471</p>