



Early Childhood Australia  
Professional Learning



THE EARLY CHILDHOOD AUSTRALIA

# PROFESSIONAL LEARNING GUIDE

Evidence-based tools and  
resources that inspire quality

Seventh Edition • October 2023





# About Early Childhood Australia

Early Childhood Australia (ECA) is the national advocacy voice for young children and early childhood professionals in Australia. Incorporated in 1938 as the Australian Preschool Association, we have been of service to Australian children for more than 80 years. We are a not-for-profit, membership-based organisation with active state and territory bodies in each Australian jurisdiction and a National Board of Directors.

ECA's vision is to ensure that 'every young child is thriving and learning'. To achieve this vision, we champion the rights of all children from birth to the age of eight to thrive, learn and play at home, in the community, within early learning settings and through the early years of school. Our work builds the capacity of our society, including families and early childhood professionals, so that every child—regardless of location, household income or individual needs—can be nurtured to achieve their potential.

## Our Strategic Plan (2021–2024) has five priorities:

**Priority 1:** Speak up for young children

**Priority 2:** Collaborate for impact

**Priority 3:** Champion 'beyond quality' in early education

**Priority 4:** Lead and inspire professional learning

**Priority 5:** Be sustainable and effective

For more information about ECA, including our Annual Report, Strategic Plan and Reconciliation Action Plan, please visit [www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au](http://www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au). You can also download the ECA app for use on your mobile device—available for both Apple and Android platforms.

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# ECA Professional Learning

ECA is the leading provider of professional learning to the Australian early childhood sector across publications, events and online learning. We produce high-quality content to support the professional development of early childhood educators, teachers and service leaders. All resources are quality-assured, up to date and written by highly experienced subject matter experts.

Our resources support educators at all stages of their career—from students just starting out to leaders with responsibility for driving practice and quality improvement.

We recognise that professional learning is inherently linked to quality outcomes for children and important for everyone in the early childhood sector. We also know that adult learners have a diversity of learning styles, preferences and needs. Our goal is to provide a suite of quality-assured resources to meet the needs of every educator at any career stage.

This is the seventh edition of the *ECA Professional Learning Guide*, which provides an overview of our resources, including online learning, events and publications (digital and print).

We have divided the guide into sections reflecting the four major components of our professional learning offerings:



This guide is also available online at:

**[learninghub.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/online-professional-learning-guide](https://learninghub.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/online-professional-learning-guide)**

## Plan for professional learning

ECA recognises that professional learning is important for educators and teams and that high-value professional learning is inherently linked to quality outcomes for children. ECA provides a range of professional learning opportunities to help meet the needs of educators and teachers with diverse skill sets working in a variety of different settings. ECA courses take anywhere from hours to weeks and months to complete and can be undertaken individually or alongside peers to allow for learning to be contextualised and embedded.

Early childhood professionals are inundated with competing demands and are looking for the most effective ways to engage in ongoing professional development. Planning for professional learning and networking opportunities is critical as part of ongoing professional growth and quality improvement.



As you consider these resources, we encourage you to plan for and prioritise and develop professional learning plans for yourself and your teams.

### *Tip 1 Develop a professional learning plan with clear goals aligned with priorities*

To be intentional about professional learning, it is important to have a clear plan outlining its implementation. This plan needs to link to your personal, room or service goals for professional learning, encompassing priorities across:

- onboarding new employees with induction and orientation training
- compliance training on topics such as mandatory reporting and workplace health and safety
- individual professional learning activities that contribute towards teacher registration and individual performance appraisal goals
- team or service development, which may be based on Quality Improvement Plan or commitments made in a Reconciliation Action Plan
- management and leadership development to ensure you are developing future leaders in your team and staying up to date with good management practices.

#### **Did you know?**

ECA has a collection of professional learning plan templates and tips to help you identify and plan for professional learning for yourself and your team.



### *Tip 2 Engage staff in decision-making about their own learning to build ownership*

When developing your professional learning plan, you might consult with your team on how they think decisions should be made. Some services and organisations give employees an annual budget or an allocation of paid time to spend on approved training; others take a team-based approach with agreement on shared learning areas. There is no 'right way', and your approach might change over time, but shared understanding and team input will help to build enthusiasm for professional learning, enhance ownership and engagement, and flow through to practice.



Once your plan and budget are set, ensure everyone understands how decisions will be made about team/group learning and individual opportunities. To aid their understanding, you could provide team members with a summary of the professional learning plan and specifically address frequently asked questions such as:

- can an individual ask to do a course or attend an event?
- will everyone have access to the same publications or online learning?
- who will approve or manage the process of paying for a course or an event?
- what are the expectations about reporting back?

### ***Tip 3 Allocate a realistic budget to achieve the goals you have set***

As a general guide, ECA recommends that organisations allocate between 1% (minimum) and 2% (good practice) of the annual expenditure on wages/salaries to professional learning.

Another way to develop a budget is to identify the professional learning activities you would like everyone to do, then calculate the cost of the training, participation (e.g. time and travel) and backfill.

Look out for opportunities to augment your professional learning budget by applying for training grants/subsidies, event scholarships, or sponsored places—and don't forget to maximise membership discounts you are eligible for.

### ***Tip 4 Offer a variety of learning opportunities using multiple forms and approaches***

People learn in different ways, individuals may be at different starting points, and changing practice can be difficult to achieve. So whether your aim is to build consistency across your team or to support individuals to flourish in specialised areas, offering a variety of professional learning opportunities will always be beneficial.

- Professional reading can be supported by dedicated paid time and access to a library or journal/book series. E-books, audio books and podcasts are also important sources for sharing new ideas, exploring controversies and staying up to date.
- Professional conversations can be incorporated into regular team meetings and supervision. You might also establish communities of practice or learning circles within your service and/or participate in professional networks and events that foster dialogue.
- Inquiry-based learning can be supported by collaborative projects and opportunities to present to the team or lead a professional conversation.
- Online learning can help build common or shared knowledge across a team, particularly when combined with professional reading and conversations.
- Courses and programs enable individuals to build their skills in areas of interest or need. They can be individual and self-paced or in a group learning setting.
- Conferences and events give individuals the opportunity to be immersed in professional learning and build a network beyond their workplace.
- Mentoring and coaching are particularly good for leadership development or specialist learning.
- Cultural immersion experiences, led by Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people on Country, can provide a depth of understanding.
- Bringing in an expert or consultant to work with the whole team on a shared learning goal can build a sense of being on a journey together.
- Study tours that involve visiting other services, centres of excellence or specialist programs to learn about different approaches to pedagogy or programming can be transformative experiences.
- Learning in the flow of work builds on the notion of being a 'learning organisation' where team members are encouraged to learn on a day-to-day basis. Teams that do this well support each other to be curious, talk about their practice, share interesting resources and participate in professional networks.

### ***Tip 5 Evaluate and sustain professional learning to create a culture of continuous improvement***

To create a culture of continuous improvement and encouragement, it is important to regularly discuss professional learning and evaluate its impact. Inviting staff members to report back on their professional learning experiences and share what they have learned not only reinforces their learning but also extends the benefits to others.

Keep a record of time and resources invested in learning activities, or provide a regular update on progress against the professional learning plan to your governing body. Staff satisfaction surveys can also be useful for assessing the effectiveness of professional learning.

## ECA Learning Hub

The ECA Learning Hub is a highly interactive professional learning platform built on a Learning Management System (LMS) that allows you to track your own or your team's learning. The platform is functional and supports sustained professional learning that leads to changed practice.

Designed for education and care professionals, the online courses featured on the ECA Learning Hub are based on the latest research and follow adult learning methodologies. The courses are ideal for educators, teachers and other professionals working with young children.

There are online courses for individual, self-paced learning and subscriptions that work well for group training, as well as programs that work for both. The ECA Learning Hub has a diversity of content across topics relevant to early childhood education, family day care and school-age care, including:

- planning, documentation and research
- leadership and management
- rights, advocacy and inclusion
- pedagogy and curriculum
- health and wellbeing
- reconciliation and cultural responsiveness.

Our content is developed by subject matter experts, researchers and sector leaders and reviewed for quality by at least two other professionals with relevant expertise. It speaks the language of educators and teachers and can be used across the wide range of settings—school, preschool/kindergarten, family day care, in-home care and outside school hours care.

ECA Learning Hub courses can be purchased individually or through a subscription that provides access to a library of resources, including exclusive subscriber-only content.

Partnered projects are also available for purchase. These include:

- a series developed by the Reggio Emilia Australia Information Exchange (REAIE) to help educators to interpret the educational approach of Reggio Emilia
- a suite of modules developed by Dr Claire Warden, specifically for the Australian context, focusing on 'Learning with Nature' and 'Participatory Planning Using the Floorbooks® Approach'.





## Quality online learning

The variety of quality online learning available on the ECA Learning Hub is intended to provide flexibility for individuals and teams who may be at different starting points of knowledge and expertise.

- **Self-paced online courses**

Interactive courses designed to give you research-based information accessible at a time that suits you. Subject matter experts present information on the varied topics. Courses include text, videos and interactive learning activities to support practical understandings in early childhood and school-age settings.

- **Communities of Practice**

Online communities where participants learn with and from each other, with curated professional learning resources to expand knowledge on a specific topic. Communities of Practice use a blended-learning approach, including self-paced online courses, live events, printed publications, online forums and an action research project.

- **Live webinars**

Live-streamed events that explore timely topics in great depth, providing learners with the opportunity to connect with early childhood experts in real time on an online forum.

- **The ECA Leadership Program**

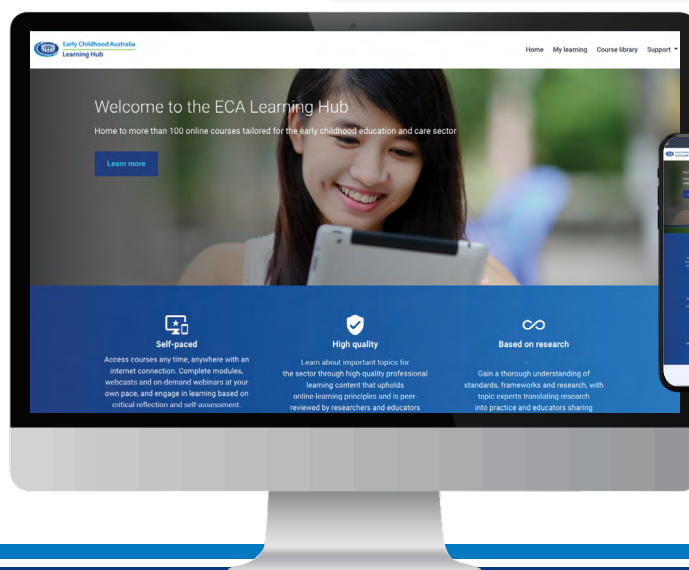
A unique program designed specifically for pedagogical leaders, including but not limited to educational leaders. It comprises a Leadership Capability Framework, Self-Assessment Guide, Self-paced courses, and an online learning community.

- **The ECA Management Fundamentals Program**

A program specifically designed for managers and directors to strengthen their knowledge and skills across fundamental aspects of management. It comprises a hard-copy folder, online courses and both printed and online tools and checklists.

### Accredited courses

Please refer to the ECA Learning Hub website for more specific accreditation information for each state and territory, as well as an up-to-date list of accredited courses.



**Join the ECA Learning Hub to take your learning further**



## Teacher-accredited courses and mapping

All ECA online learning courses are mapped to the *National Quality Standard* (NQS) Quality Areas and the *Australian Professional Standards for Teachers* (APST). ECA offers many courses that are currently accredited by the ACT Teacher Quality Institute (TQI) and the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA).

Below is a selection of approved courses, and the list is added to regularly. Please refer to the ECA Learning Hub website for more specific accreditation information for each state and territory, as well as an up-to-date list of accredited courses.



### Philosophy leading strategy (3-part series)

Quality Area: 4, 7

APST: 7

TQI accredited



### Putting art in place (2-part series)

Quality Area: 1, 3, 6

APST: 2, 6

TQI accredited



### Understand the role: Nominated supervisor and person in day-to-day charge in education and care

Quality Area: 7

APST: 6, 7

TQI accredited



### Encountering and interpreting the principles of Reggio Emilia Encounters (4-part series)

Quality Area: 1, 3, 5, 6

APST: 3, 6

TQI accredited



### An insight into Autism Spectrum Disorder in the early years (2-part series)

Quality Area: 1, 5

APST: 1, 3, 5

TQI + NESA accredited



### A good place to be a child: Creating effective early learning environments

Quality Area: 1, 2, 3

APST: 3, 4, 7

NESA accredited

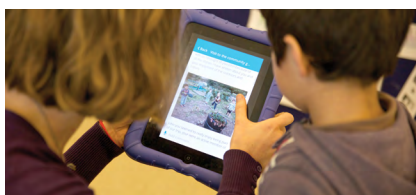


### Music in early childhood (2-part series)

Quality Area: 1, 5, 6

APST: 6

TQI accredited



### Engaging with digital documentation and technology (3-part series)

Quality Area: 1, 4, 5, 6, 7

APST: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

NESA+TQI accredited



### Partnerships with families for inclusive practice (2-part series)

Quality Area: 1, 5, 6

APST: 6, 7

TQI accredited



Early Childhood Australia  
**Leadership Program**



Twelve online learning courses



Hard copy *Leadership Capability Framework*



Online discussion forums



Completion certificate

TQI accredited



Find out more. Scan the QR code or contact the ECA Customer Service Team on **1800 356 900**



## Subscription

Flexible professional learning starts here!

A subscription to the ECA Learning Hub grants learners annual access to a comprehensive library of over 90 online courses across various topics including work health and safety, pedagogy, documentation, leadership and much more! New courses are added to the subscription offering regularly.

A subscription to the ECA Learning Hub is a high-value option to provide individuals and teams with open access to courses that can be completed at their own pace. The ECA Learning Hub is designed for individual users to progress through online courses at their own pace—anytime, anywhere. In addition to online courses, subscribers are provided with a curated collection of resources to delve deeper, as well as in-service tasks with next steps to further elevate practice.

“The ECA Learning Hub is an invaluable resource to support quality in early childhood. It gives busy early childhood educators the chance to take part in professional development programs that are practical as well as inspiring. The ECA Learning Hub allows educators to work through the modules over time and at their own pace, which research has shown to be the most effective form of professional development.

– Dr Amanda Niland

”

## Exclusive subscription-only courses

An annual subscription to the ECA Learning Hub gives you exclusive access to new content produced by ECA every year.

Receive bonus online content not available without a subscription.

EXCLUSIVE  
CONTENT



A conversation with Dr Stuart Shanker



Child safe organisations—National principles  
(11-part series)



Acting ethically: Exploring the ECA Code of Ethics



Taking notice and taking care



Dealing with stress, pressure and burnout in education settings



Professionalism, paperwork and pedagogy: Leading professional practice in long day care

Subscription to the ECA Learning Hub includes  
access to exclusive subscription-only content



## Professional learning topics

### Planning, documentation and research



#### Documenting and assessing children's learning with Dr Anne Kennedy

**Presenter:** Dr Anne Kennedy

**Quality Area:** 1, 5, 6

APST: 3, 5

**Subscription**

Discover how documenting and assessing children's learning helps educators gain a deeper understanding of children's interests, strengths and abilities, and how to support and extend children's learning and development.



#### *Belonging, Being & Becoming: The Early Years Learning Framework (V2.0)*

**Presenter:** Victoria Petriella

**Quality Area:** 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7

APST: 6,7

**Subscription**

This professional learning course is designed for anyone working in early childhood settings who seeks to increase or refresh their understanding of the *Early Years Learning Framework (V2.0)*. The *Early Years Learning Framework (V2.0)* guides professional practice, curriculum decision-making, teaching and learning to ensure consistent high-quality practices are in place across all Australian early years settings.



#### Using critical reflection

**Presenter:** Dr Jennifer Cartmel

**Quality Area:** 1, 4, 7

APST: 3, 5, 6

**Subscription**

This course explains how critical reflection forms a crucial part of professional practice in early childhood education and care, and provides suggestions for how to make critical reflection a positive part of everyday practice.



#### The planning cycle: Rediscovered

**Presenter:** Rod Soper

**Quality Area:** 1

APST: 3, 5

**Subscription**

Rod Soper presents this inspiring rediscovery of the planning cycle that challenges us to consider how we can use the planning cycle to reinvigorate not only our thinking but also our approach to children's learning and development.





## Engaging with digital documentation and technology (3-part series)

**Presenter:** Karen Turner

**Quality Area:** 1, 4, 5, 6, 7

**APST:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

**Subscription**

This three-part series will take you on a journey through multiple perspectives—that of the child and family, the educator and the leadership team—to consider how best to implement documentation through a digital medium.



## Play-based learning: Using the Pedagogical Play-framework

**Presenter:** Professor Susan Edwards

**Quality Area:** 1, 3, 5

**APST:** 3

**Subscription**

This course discusses approaches to balancing open-ended play with intentional teaching using the Pedagogical Play-framework.



## Play-based learning and intentionality

**By** Sue Mentha, Jane Page and Sarah Young

This *Everyday Learning Series* title describes what intentional teaching is in relation to play-based learning and intentionality, why it is important and what intentional teaching through play looks like in practice. It also explores several teaching practices that can help educators and children engage in rich learning that builds on children's interests, knowledge and capabilities.

**Quality Area:** 1, 3, 5, 7

**Subscribe to ECA's *Everyday Learning Series*  
to receive bonus online resources!**





**ENROL  
NOW**

## Encountering and interpreting the principles of Reggio Emilia Encounters (4-part series)

Discover and explore the principles of Reggio Emilia in this one-of-a-kind online professional learning package, developed by Early Childhood Australia and the Reggio Emilia Australia Information Exchange in collaboration with Reggio Children, Italy.

This series contains four encounters:

### **Encounter 1—Not just any place**

The first Encounter provides an overview of the educational project of Reggio Emilia and the context, culture and complexity of this educational approach. The next two Encounters will build on this initial information with an in-depth exploration of several of the important concepts of the project.

### **Encounter 2—Seeing things differently**

In the second Encounter, 'Seeing things differently', you will be offered information about some of the pedagogical choices made by educators who work in the municipal early childhood centres in Reggio Emilia and Australian interpretations of this approach. You will also be given the opportunity to consider pedagogical research and invited to consider ways that these choices link to daily practice.

### **Encounter 3—Teachers and children as researchers**

In the third Encounter, 'Teachers and children as researchers', we delve deeper into some of the strategies for understanding the learning and teaching that the Reggio Emilia educators engage in as part of their day-to-day work with children. You will also be given the opportunity to complete the online learning journal and reflect back on your learning experience throughout the Encounters.

### **Encounter 4—Pedagogy, a context for research**

In this Encounter, 'Pedagogy, a context for research', some of the theoretical underpinnings, values, practices and language of the educational project of Reggio Emilia will be examined in greater depth, although it should be kept in mind that the educational project of Reggio Emilia is always evolving.

Developed in partnership by:



**Reggio Emilia Australia**  
INFORMATION EXCHANGE  
*re search for a new culture of childhood*



**Early Childhood Australia**  
A voice for young children



**REGGIO CHILDREN**





## Participatory planning: The Floorbooks® Approach and nature pedagogy

**Presenter: Dr Claire Warden**

These professional learning packages have been developed by Dr Claire Warden in partnership with ECA.



### What is the Floorbooks Approach?

The Floorbooks Approach is designed to create a balance between adult intentionality and child autonomy. Floorbooks allow educators to consult deeply with children during the planning and documentation process. The approach encourages higher-order thinking skills and helps children influence their learning.

### What are Talking Tubs?

A Talking Tub is a container that a practitioner fills with a wide variety of objects based on a particular theme. Objects can be taken out one by one, encouraging children to touch, feel and explore a theme. Observation, documentation, assessment and planning are most effective when they are matched to the needs of the child. In order to achieve this, we need to understand children's thinking by considering all the ways in which they communicate.

The Talking Tub is a vital part of the Talking and Thinking Floorbooks Approach. The tub will allow you to provoke child-led conversations, which in turn will create possible lines of development.

### What is nature pedagogy?

Nature pedagogy is an educational way of working with children that embraces nature. 'Nature pedagogy is an understanding of our sense of belonging to land, our sense of working with nature. There is a pedagogical shift when you move outside into nature ... It's learning with nature, not just teaching about it.' —Dr Claire Warden.

Developed in partnership by:



**Early Childhood Australia**  
A voice for young children

## Professional learning topics

### Pedagogy and curriculum



#### Respect: A guide to calm and nurturing infant care and education

**Presenter:** Toni Christie

**Quality Area:** 1, 2, 5, 6

**APST:** 1, 3

[Subscription](#)

Respect—defined as treating someone or something with consideration—should underpin the values and actions of educators. This course will unpack the practicality of respect in infant and toddler programs, with particular emphasis on primary caregiving, care rituals, settling processes, free movement as well as partnerships with families.



#### A good place to be a child: Creating effective early learning environments

**Presenter:** Dr Luke Touhill

**Quality Area:** 1, 2, 3

**APST:** 3, 4, 7

[Subscription](#)

In this course, Dr Luke Touhill talks about creating effective early learning environments that capture the image of the child and shape the behaviour of both children and adults. He also examines what makes a successful learning environment.



#### Take me outside: An introduction to outdoor learning

**Presenter:** Victoria McDowell

**Quality Area:** 1, 3

**APST:** 3, 4

[Subscription](#)

Explore the importance of outdoor environments for children's learning and development, and gain strategies on using a variety of outdoor spaces with children, while also examining how educators and children can manage risk without removing challenges and fun.



#### Music in early childhood

**(2-part series)**

**Presenter:** Dr Amanda Niland

**Quality Area:** 1, 5, 6

**APST:** 6

[Subscription](#)

Music has long been regarded as an important part of early childhood education. In this module, explore music as an integral and vibrant part of a child's family, community and culture, and how it can be utilised as a powerful tool for learning and development.





## Engineering creativity: Celebrating loose-parts play for all ages

**Presenter:** Robin Christie

**Quality Area:** 1, 3, 5

APST: 3, 6

[Subscription](#)

This webcast examines many practical instances of loose-parts play using materials that are recovered, upcycled and drawn from nature in infancy to school-age care spaces and their importance in symbolic and imaginative play.



## STEM inquiry: Co-constructed environments for curious minds

**Presenter:** Little Scientists

**Quality Area:** 1, 5

APST: 3, 6, 7

[Subscription](#)

This module encourages early childhood educators and teachers to engage in inquiry-based, child-led STEM practices. Participants explore everyday learning opportunities relevant to children's lives and develop a basic understanding of co-constructed environments, the principles of inquiry-based learning and the concept of metacognition.



## Nature's laboratory: STEM learning in the outdoors

**By** Chris Speldewinde, Anna Kilderry and Coral Campbell

This *Research in Practice Series* book explores young children's STEM learning in nature-based early childhood settings and provides practical strategies that educators can use to guide and support children's learning in this area. Drawing on national and international research (Cutter-Mackenzie-Knowles et al., 2020; Speldewinde et al., 2021; Waller et al., 2017), it offers evidence-informed examples of STEM learning in nature that can help educators build children's confidence as learners and develop children's STEM dispositions such as curiosity, observing, problem-solving, persistence and creative thinking.

**Quality Area:** 1, 2, 3, 6

**Subscribe to ECA's *Research in Practice Series*:  
Tools for pedagogical leaders**



# Professional learning topics

## Leadership and management



**Understand the role: Nominated supervisor and person in day-to-day charge in education and care**

**Presenter:** Vanessa Gale

**Quality Area:** 4, 7

APST: 6, 7

[Subscription](#)

Unpack what it means to be a nominated supervisor or a person in day-to-day charge of an education and care service. Participants will be assisted in understanding the role's key responsibilities, how the legislation gives effect to these, and the legislative requirements, including what they should expect of approved providers.



**Philosophy leading strategy**  
**(3-part series)**

**Presenter:** Dr Leanne Gibbs

**Quality Area:** 1, 4, 7

APST: 7

[Subscription](#)

A shared vision and philosophy is integral to the achievement of an Exceeding rating, yet these components are not always understood by educators and managers. This series aims to study the meaning of vision and philosophy and explore how a vision and philosophy is used within early and middle-childhood settings.



**Duty of care: Work health and safety in education and care**

**Presenters:** Early Childhood Australia

**Quality Area:** 2, 3, 4, 7

APST: 4, 6, 7

[Subscription](#)

Work health and safety is everyone's responsibility. Explore workplace and individual responsibilities and how to fulfil these responsibilities.



**Developing and maintaining a Quality Improvement Plan**

**Presenter:** Dr Luke Touhill

**Quality Area:** 1, 4, 7

APST: 7

[Subscription](#)

The course encourages a team-based approach to developing and using a Quality Improvement Plan seeking the involvement of all educators, children and families.



## Managing challenging exchanges: Responding professionally

**Presenter:** Jennifer Ribarovski

**Quality Area:** 4, 7

**APST:** 6, 7

**Subscription**

This course introduces the importance of professional communication and explores communication strategies to address conflict and challenging exchanges in your role as an educator or staff member within an education and care service.



## Your home, your business

**(2-part series)**

**Presenter:** Family Day Care Australia

**Quality Area:** 6, 7

**APST:** 6, 7

**Subscription**

This learning resource aims to enhance the knowledge and confidence of educators in managing their family day care business. It has been developed as a result of feedback from educators that managing the business side of their family day care can be a little challenging at times, especially when they are first starting out.



## Leadership-as-practice in early childhood education and care settings

**By** Leanne Gibbs

Despite the link between the quality of early childhood education and care settings and leadership enactment, leading and leadership are not always fully understood or developed within the profession. The sector will need more leaders in the future, so it is important to cultivate leadership for not just formal positions but also staff at all levels. This *Research in Practice Series* title highlights the need for reconceptualising leadership as a practice rather than a position and explains how organisations can create the conditions that cultivate leadership-as-practice.

**Quality Area:** 7

**Subscribe to ECA's *Research in Practice Series*:  
Tools for pedagogical leaders**





## The ECA *Management Fundamentals Program*

Management and leadership are companions in the delivery of high-quality education and care. This program has been designed to support managers in their skills, increase their knowledge and elevate their confidence in meeting their day-to-day responsibilities in whatever service or organisation type they work in.



The ECA *Management Fundamentals Program* covers:

- an introduction to management in education and care
- philosophy, purpose and planning
- understanding governance and legal frameworks
- financial management systems
- human resource management
- risk mitigation and management
- decision-making and effective communication

### Who is the program suitable for?

- Experienced and new directors and managers
- Assistant managers
- Team or room leaders
- Family day care educators
- Consultants
- Aspiring managers

### Program participants receive access to:

- fourteen core online courses
- elective online courses
- online tools and resources
- Program folder
- printed checklists and audit tools
- Certificate of Completion.



**Invest in yourself or your future managers  
with the ECA *Management Fundamentals Program***



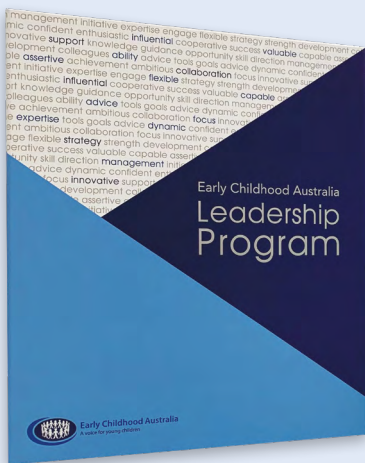
The ECA *Leadership Program* is founded on expert research and sector consultation. It has been designed by some of Australia's foremost early childhood experts, including Sandra Cheeseman, Leanne Gibbs and Manjula Waniganayake, and further quality-assured by early childhood leaders. Our *Leadership Program* was specifically created as a strengths-based, self-directed, short-term program for both current and aspiring early childhood leaders in diverse settings.

## Who is the self-directed ECA *Leadership Program* suitable for?

- Educational leaders
- Team or room leaders
- Experienced educators and teachers
- Experienced and new directors and managers
- Early childhood consultants
- Aspiring leaders

The *ECA Leadership Program* enables sector leaders and managers to benchmark, develop and map their own professional learning. It is self-paced and can be completed at your own pace or undertaken along with the other participants as a cohort.

It has been mapped to the *National Quality Framework* and the *Australian Professional Standards for Teachers* and can contribute to Quality Improvement Plans. Participants can create their own individual *Personalised Professional Learning Plan* (specific to their current working environment).



- twelve online professional learning courses
- online forums, to connect with other leaders
- program folder containing the hard copy *Leadership Capability Framework* 'how-to' guide with suggestions on how to make the most of the Framework (for each individual participant)
- ECA *Leadership Program* Certificate of Completion.

The *Box of Leadership Provocations* is a valuable optional addition to the *ECA Leadership Program*. Written by six of Australia's leading early childhood experts—Anne Stonehouse, Anthony Semann, Susan Irvine, Catharine Hydon, Michelle Gujer and Leanne Gibbs—the *ECA Box of Leadership Provocations* is for leaders at all levels. Each of the 48 provocation cards, which are organised under the six capabilities outlined in the *ECA Leadership Capability Framework*, includes questions to provoke discussion and debate.



## Professional learning topics

### Health and wellbeing



#### Emotion coaching: A transformational tool

**Presenter:** Beth Macgregor

**Quality Area:** 1, 3, 5

**APST:** 1, 6

[Subscription](#)

This webcast discusses effective ways of guiding children with big feelings and behaviours. It explores the five steps of emotion coaching—emotional awareness, connecting, listening, naming emotions and finding good solutions—and explains how these can be used by early childhood professionals to build trusting and respectful relationships with children.



#### Supporting children's self-regulation: Birth to three years

**Presenters:** Professor Andrea Nolan and Karen Bonson

**Quality Area:** 1, 3, 5

**APST:** 3, 6

[Subscription](#)

This course focuses on how educators can help very young children learn how to understand, name and manage their emotions and begin self-regulating their own behaviour.



#### Supporting children's self-regulation: Three to five years

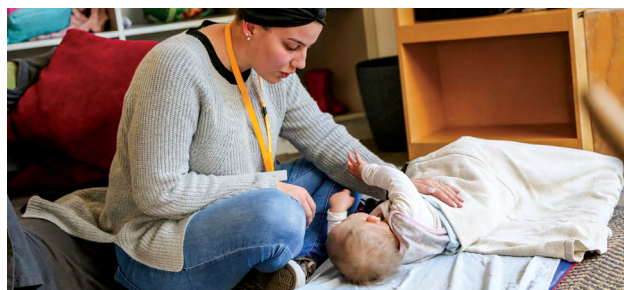
**Presenter:** Dr Kate Williams

**Quality Area:** 1, 3, 5

**APST:** 3

[Subscription](#)

Self-regulation is a critical skill that develops in early childhood and underpins all future learning and wellbeing. This course focuses on how to help children learn to manage their own attention, emotions, thinking and behaviour.



#### Settling multiple children in early childhood education and care settings

**Presenter:** Cindy Davenport

**Quality Area:** 1, 2, 3

**APST:** 7

[Subscription](#)

The need for sleep and rest varies as children develop and grow, and in many cases, an early childhood setting is very different to the home sleep environment. This webcast examines practical safe-sleeping strategies for settling multiple children in early childhood education and care settings.





## Wellbeing matters: A guide to why wellbeing matters at work

**Presenter:** Rod Soper

**Quality Area:** 6

**APST:** 7

**Subscription**

Rod Soper examines the concept of personal wellbeing and how service leaders can establish a culture of wellbeing in their early learning services.



## Early childhood education for sustainability: Now or never, a time for urgent change

**Presenter:** Dr Sue Elliott

**Quality Area:** 1, 3

**APST:** 7

**Subscription**

In this webinar, Dr Sue Elliott examines what sustainability looks like within early childhood and what educators can do to facilitate change within their early childhood services.



## Putting children first: Child safe organisations

**By** Kerryann Walsh and Rhiannon Smith

Early childhood educators and service providers are taking large positive steps towards creating safe environments where all children are valued and their rights to safety and wellbeing are respected and upheld. In short, they are working towards creating child safe organisations.

**Quality Area:** 1, 2, 4, 5, 7

**Subscribe to ECA's *Everyday Learning Series*  
to receive bonus online resources!**



## Professional learning topics

### Rights, advocacy and inclusion



#### Professionalism and identity in early childhood: Who we are and what we do

**Presenter:** Catharine Hydon

**Quality Area:** 4, 7

**APST:** 7

[Subscription](#)

This course explores the idea of professional identity in two ways—who you are and what you do. You will ponder notions of professionalism and your identity in early childhood education and care in relation to children, families, colleagues and the community. You will consider links between professional identity and the implications of professional ethics for your practice.



#### An insight into Autism Spectrum Disorder (2-part series)

**Presenter:** Autism Queensland

**Quality Area:** 1, 5

**APST:** 1, 3, 4

[Subscription](#)

Behaviour is a form of communication. This 2-part series examines behaviour as communication and how to understand certain behaviours and why they might occur, before delving deeper into how behaviour can look different for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. It also explains how educators can guide children through positive behaviour-support strategies whilst advocating for children with special rights.



#### Anti-bias approaches in early childhood

**Presenter:** Dr Red Ruby Scarlet

**Quality Area:** 1, 6

**APST:** 3, 4

[Subscription](#)

In this course, Dr Red Ruby Scarlet addresses key critical questions about embedding anti-bias approaches in everyday practice: what it is, what it means, how the anti-bias approach is interrelated with other pedagogical approaches, and the practical ways in which educators can become a part of the 'anti-bias' movement.



#### Partnerships with families for inclusive practice (2-part series)

**Presenter:** Early Childhood Australia

**Quality Area:** 1, 5, 6

**APST:** 6, 7

[Subscription](#)

Partnerships with families and caregivers underpin young children's inclusion, learning and development. This series examines the role of effective partnerships to enable inclusion within early childhood education and care services, the benefits of partnerships and strategies to support inclusive practice.





## Supporting bilingualism during early childhood

**Presenter:** Dr Ruth Nicholls

**Quality Area:** 1, 6

APST: 1, 6

**Subscription**

This course explores the theories behind bilingualism and how educators, who are in a unique position to support children in developing their language and communication skills, can share language and culture with young children and families.



## Working with the ECA Code of Ethics

**Presenter:** Catharine Hydon

**Quality Area:** 4, 7

APST: 6, 7

**Subscription**

This course examines what it means to be ethical and how early childhood educators can use the ECA Code of Ethics to strengthen relationships with children, families, colleagues, societies and the profession.



## Becoming agents of change through advocacy

**By** Lucinda Stewart and Bronwyn Reed

Advocacy is an essential component of early childhood practice. Early childhood educators have an ethical responsibility to advocate for children, families and the early childhood profession. Through understanding this unique role, educators can provide children with opportunities for not only learning and development but also active citizenship.

**Quality Area:** 1, 4, 5, 6

**Subscribe to ECA's Everyday Learning Series  
to receive bonus online resources!**



## Professional learning topics

### Reconciliation and cultural responsiveness



#### Reconciliation in children's education and care: Taking the first steps

**Presenters:** Jo Goodwin and Catharine Hydon

**Quality Area:** 1, 6

**APST:** 2, 4

**Subscription**

Take the first steps towards embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives and reconciliation into your practice. By referencing the truth about Australia's history, this course explains how knowledge and personal beliefs may impact your experience of reconciliation and how they form the foundation for building reconciliation in education and care practice.



#### NAIDOC Week: Stories of practice

**Presenter:** Jessica Staines

**Quality Area:** 1, 6, 7

**APST:** 1, 4, 6

**Subscription**

NAIDOC Week is a nationally significant annual event that celebrates the achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This course will provide early learning professionals an opportunity to consider how they engage with and celebrate NAIDOC Week in their local community context.



#### Understanding and making art: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art in early childhood settings

**Presenter:** Jo Krabman

**Quality Area:** 1, 5

**APST:** 2

**Subscription**

Explore in this course how educators and young children can approach art appreciation and think critically about art-making, inspired by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art.



#### Putting art in place (2-part series)

**Presenter:** Dr Red Ruby Scarlet

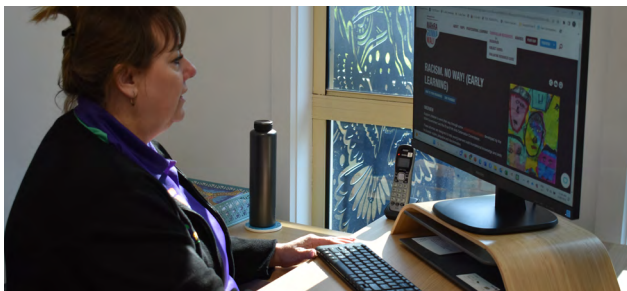
**Quality Area:** 1, 3, 5, 6

**APST:** 2, 6

**Subscription**

This 2-part series focuses on art and how it facilitates the development of relationships with Country, children and adults, as well as with materials and technology. The series also answers questions surrounding who the teacher is and what counts as valid knowledge, and explores learning in human – non-human relations and how Indigenous cosmologies are infused throughout these relationships.





## Initiating a Reconciliation Action Plan: Where do I start?

**Presenter:** Narragunnawali: Reconciliation  
in Education

**Quality Area:** 3, 4, 6

APST: 2, 3, 6

**Subscription**

This course will introduce early childhood professionals to the concept and context of reconciliation in education and where to start when initiating a Reconciliation Action Plan. It support practitioners in leadership roles to understand the Reconciliation Action Plan process and best support their team in initiating, developing and implementing a Reconciliation Action Plan.



## Every child has the right to be included

**Presenter:** ECA Learning Hub

**Quality Area:** 1, 5, 6

APST: 1, 6, 7

**Subscription**

This course aims to assist educators in developing their understanding of what it means to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to feel a genuine sense of belonging within their early learning community. It is specifically designed to offer early childhood professionals the skills to work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and their families looking through a cultural lens.



## Acceptance, justice and equality: Exploring reconciliation in early childhood education and care

**By** Catharine Hydon and Adam Duncan

This edition of the *Research in Practice Series* aims to support early years practitioners in exploring reconciliation with young children. Starting with insights into the history of reconciliation in Australia, the book provides ideas for reflection and action towards a reconciled Australia. The context and history are brought to life through the voices of a range of early childhood professionals working in the sector, and their stories offer concrete, accessible and meaningful examples of action, which other educators may find useful in developing their own framework for reconciliation work.

**Quality Area:** 1, 4, 6, 7

**Subscribe to ECA's *Research in Practice Series*:**  
**Tools for pedagogical leaders**



## Access, participation and positive outcomes: Inclusion in early childhood

*Access, participation and positive outcomes: Inclusion in early childhood* is a free resource for educators at any stage in their career. The resource is a curated collection of innovative online professional learning resources to support inclusive practices in early childhood education and care settings. This collection of free resources aims to support increased knowledge, skills and confidence in the inclusion of children with a diagnosed disability, as well as children with other factors that may affect their general wellbeing and engagement in early learning.

### Short online self-paced professional learning courses:

- Introducing inclusion: Looking at diversity and adversity through an inclusive framework
- Creating a community of support for children and families experiencing vulnerability
- Being the champion for children who are impacted by trauma and adversity
- Making connections with neurodiverse children through play (2-part series)
- Understanding young children's behaviour and empowering their future (2-part series)
- Big life events: Impacts on children, families and communities
- Fostering trusting relationships to support children with anxiety
- Every child has a right to be included

**FREE  
ONLINE  
RESOURCES**

### Downloadable e-books

These downloadable e-books include practical approaches to supporting children's development.

### Animations in accessible language

A series of short animations presents essential concepts about children and early childhood education and care to support the development of foundational knowledge of early childhood pedagogy and inclusive practices:

- Being present and in tune with children
- Respectful nappy change and toileting routines
- Transitions and relationships
- Active supervision
- Creating an environment to foster play



### A podcast series

Series two of the ECA Podcast has been tailored to strengthen the way early childhood educators understand different aspects of inclusion. Australia is rich with diverse families and children that make up our society. Educators play a critical role in supporting those who have historically been seen as less than able or not as capable due to their differences. Using a variety of expert voices, we bring you this podcast to assist you in reflecting on what inclusion means to you and how to develop strategies appropriate for your context.



**LISTEN  
NOW**



## Championing family diversity in early childhood

All families are different. Children from diverse families, including those with LGBTQ+ parents, experience increased disadvantage and suffering. All education and care services need to be proactive in designing welcoming environments and planning for education on family diversity, even if the service does not yet have many or any diverse families. Early childhood education and care services are positioned to reduce discrimination and disadvantage for diverse families through the practical and embedded celebration of family diversity.

This carefully curated collection of resources is designed to empower educators to become confident in educating children about family diversity, including LGBTQ+ parent families with sensitivity and openness. By integrating family diversity education into their practices, educators will play a pivotal role in creating a future generation that embraces differences and acknowledges every family's unique makeup.



### Beyond the rainbow: Making a difference for all families

Quality Area: 1, 5, 6

APST: 4, 7

Subscription

In this course, you will learn about the diversity of families, specifically LGBTQ+ parent families, and how diversity is a positive part of Australian society. You will learn how to create learning opportunities for birth to eight-year-olds that enable children to explore family diversity in an education and care setting.

## Children's books and teacher implementation resources

Family Diversity Resource Pack 1 (Birth–3 years)

Family Diversity Resource Pack 2 (3–6 years)



## ECA Publications

ECA has been producing innovative and essential early childhood publications and resources for more than 50 years. ECA is a leading and reputable early childhood publisher with a dedicated team of editors and designers who are passionate about their work and can guarantee the excellence and usefulness of our publications. All publications are quality-assured, up to date and written by experienced early childhood professionals.

**Professional reading:  
A vital tool**  
For early childhood educators, professional reading is a useful tool to support professional knowledge and learning in ways that affirm, challenge, change and improve practice.<sup>1</sup>



### *Everyday Learning Series*

Aimed at early childhood educators, students of early education and beginning practitioners, this popular publication draws upon the endless possibilities offered by everyday experiences and provides simple ideas on how to create positive learning environments for young children and enhance their interactions with the world around them. The *Everyday Learning Series* is available for purchase individually or as part of a subscription.



### *Research in Practice Series*

The *Research in Practice Series* (RIPS) is a practical, evidence-based resource offering effective new approaches for those challenging issues which arise in the care and education of young children. The books are idea-rich and focus on the practical 'hands-on' aspects of early childhood, making them ideally suited to experienced early childhood professionals. The *Research in Practice Series* is available for purchase individually or as part of a subscription.



### *Every Child* magazine

*Every Child* magazine puts the spotlight on the early years of childhood. Published quarterly and beautifully designed in full colour, it contains informative articles on issues such as health, education and social trends, as well as book reviews, profiles and guest statements from well-known early childhood practitioners and experts. Articles not only focus on aspects of early childhood at a local level but also investigate political and national developments.

Aimed at anyone involved in the care and education of young children, *Every Child* is topical, diverse and always entertaining. Members of Early Childhood Australia receive a complimentary copy of *Every Child* magazine as part of their membership.

<sup>1</sup> Jackie Brien & Jane Page, *Professional reading, learning and leading: Who reads what? And why?* [Conference presentation], Early Childhood Australia National Conference, Sydney, Australia (2019, August).

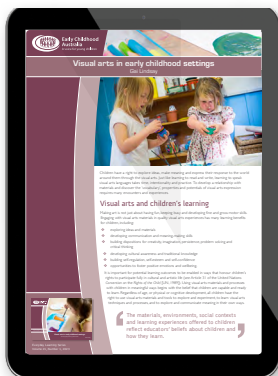
**Subscribe to ECA's publications today!**





## What are the benefits of subscribing to ECA Publications?

Subscribing to the *Research in Practice Series* and *Everyday Learning Series* is a great way to keep up with the new content produced by ECA every year. Subscribers receive new issues over a 12-month period and bonus online content not available with individual issues purchased without subscription.



### Bonus content

Each *Everyday Learning Series* title is accompanied by a downloadable fact sheet outlining the topic for families and educators. The fact sheets are full of bite-sized information that is easy to understand and perfect to display or distribute to families.

“ I cannot tell you how helpful the fact sheets are. I share them with parents and use sections of them in my documentation tools. They are really practical and great for parents.

– **Melanie, Educational Leader, Marrickville** ”



Each *Research in Practice Series* title comes with the option to download an exclusive PowerPoint presentation, which is perfect to support engagement in professional learning as a team. The presentations are designed to prompt critical thinking and reflection and support conversations that improve practice in early childhood education and care settings. The presentations are particularly useful for managers and leaders.

“ As a director, helping my whole team focus on a topic is important. I use the PowerPoint presentations for our professional learning sessions. They are editable, so I can tailor them to the needs of my team. They are a hidden gem! ”

– **Rhada, Director, South Melbourne**



### *Australasian Journal of Early Childhood*

The *Australasian Journal of Early Childhood* (AJEC) is Australasia's foremost scholarly journal and the world's longest-running major journal within the early childhood sector. AJEC offers research-based articles that are designed to impart new information and encourage the critical exchange of ideas among early childhood practitioners, academics and students. To enable this key work to reach a broader audience, ECA partners with SAGE on the publication and dissemination of AJEC.

AJEC is available for purchase individually or as part of a subscription.

**Subscribe to ECA's publications to access  
bonus online resources!**

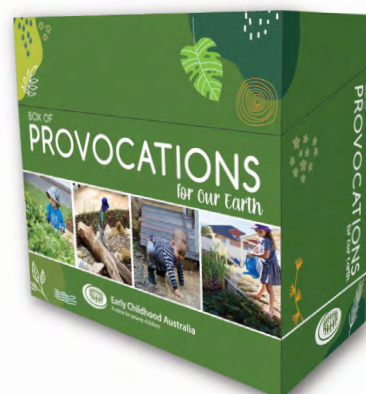
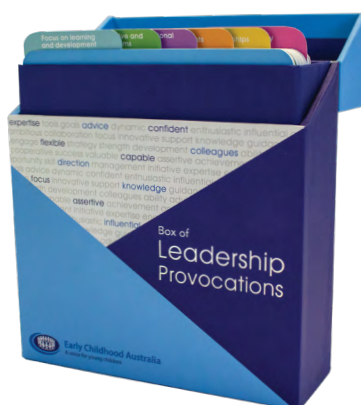
## ECA signature publications and resources

### Box of Provocations

ECA's unique *Box of Provocations* series is designed to support critical reflection, discussion, debate and deeper thinking around a range of topics such as professional practice, leadership and sustainability.

- The *Box of Provocations for Early Childhood Educators* by Anne Stonehouse is a collection intended to support critical reflection, discussion, debate and deeper thinking about teaching, learning and what it means to be a professional educator.
- The *Box of Leadership Provocations* is for leaders at all levels of early childhood education and care. This resource has been written by six of Australia's leading early childhood experts: Anne Stonehouse, Anthony Semann, Susan Irvine, Catharine Hydon, Michelle Gujer and Leanne Gibbs.
- The *Box of Provocations for our Earth* focuses on sustainability and nature pedagogy. The provocations across eight different themes, written by experts from the fields of sustainability and nature pedagogy, will prompt you to find different ways of doing things—perhaps even undergo mindshifts about what you value and how you see the world.

Beautifully presented and made to last, these will be a popular resource in your service for many years to come.



### Box of Provocations: Birth to Threes Pedagogy

Reflect, act and evolve with ECA's newest *Box of Provocations*. Provoke deeper thinking and discussion among educators with the new *Box of Provocations: Birth to Threes Pedagogy*.

Based on Anne Stonehouse's encounters with her grandchild, these cards gift readers with an insight into Anne's longstanding beliefs as an early childhood professional, her current thinking and her evolving perspective as a grandmother. The cards address a variety of topics including good practice, controversial issues and matters that may seem inconsequential but can lead to constructive change.

Support critical reflection, discussion, debate and deeper thinking in your service today!



Start a conversation today with  
**ECA's Box of Provocations**





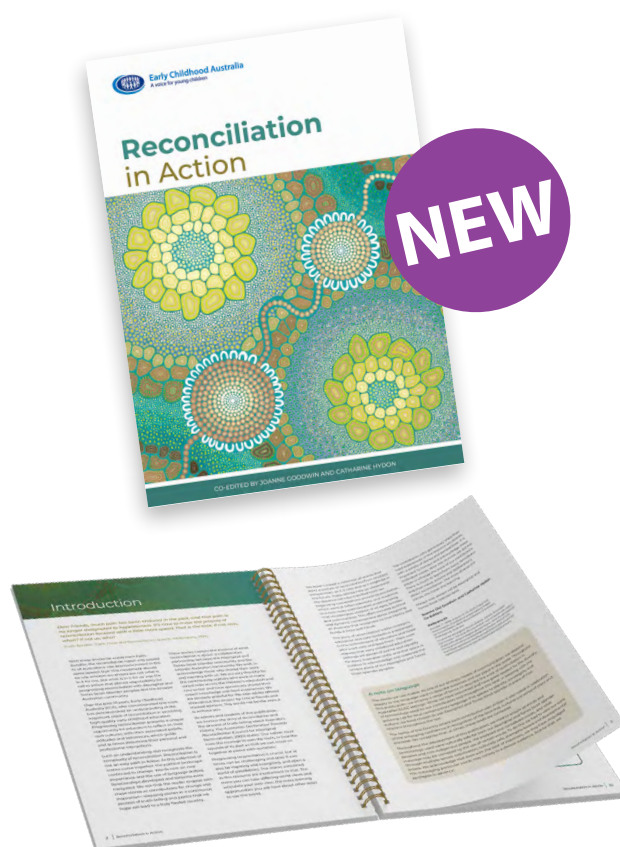
## Reconciliation in Action

Take the next step in your reconciliation journey with this curated collection of stories. These stories capture the essence of what reconciliation is about: a collaborative partnership between the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and the broader Australian community.

Discover case studies, scenarios and provocations to help guide your everyday implementation of reconciliation. Developed from the early learning and care sector's desire to commit to and enact reconciliation, this easy-to-use resource will support you in bringing reconciliation into action.

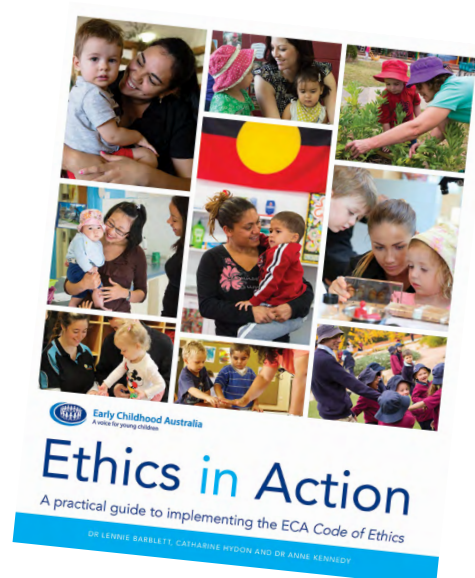
*Reconciliation in Action* joins a growing effort to demonstrate that our country is serious about being reconciled with its past by investing in our future—in our children.

Progressing reconciliation is crucial, but at times can be challenging and slow. It can also be inspiring and energising, and open a world of possibilities. The stories contained in this resource are a testament to that. The more you can hear differing world views and articulate your own view, the more learning opportunities you will have about other ways to see the world.



## Ethics in Action – A Practical Guide to Implementing the ECA Code of Ethics

This essential and practical 95-page guide to the ECA *Code of Ethics* clearly explains what 'code of ethics' means in everyday practice. Developed from the early learning and care sector's desire to commit to and enact ethics in daily practice, this easy-to-use publication includes case studies, scenarios and provocations to support you in bringing ethics into action!



Start a conversation today with  
ECA's Publications



# COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

## ECA Communities of Practice

ECA's Community of Practice (CoP) is a vibrant online community designed for teams of early childhood professionals at all stages of their careers to come together and connect around a particular topic. The CoP is an opportunity for early childhood professionals to learn with and from each other in the context of their team.

Each CoP contains carefully curated professional learning resources to expand your team's knowledge base on the chosen topic area. You will also engage with specially selected professional learning materials chosen to facilitate conversation about pedagogy and practice.

As part of the ECA CoP, you will:

- expand your knowledge on the chosen topic area
- engage in a number of online forums and live Zoom events
- be constructively challenged by your facilitator
- have the opportunity to cultivate ongoing professional relationships within the team
- be actively involved in critically reflective dialogue
- design and implement an action research project based on your team's needs
- shift your pedagogical practices as they relate to play-based learning in early childhood
- participate in and engage with ECA Learning Hub resources that will extend your thinking.

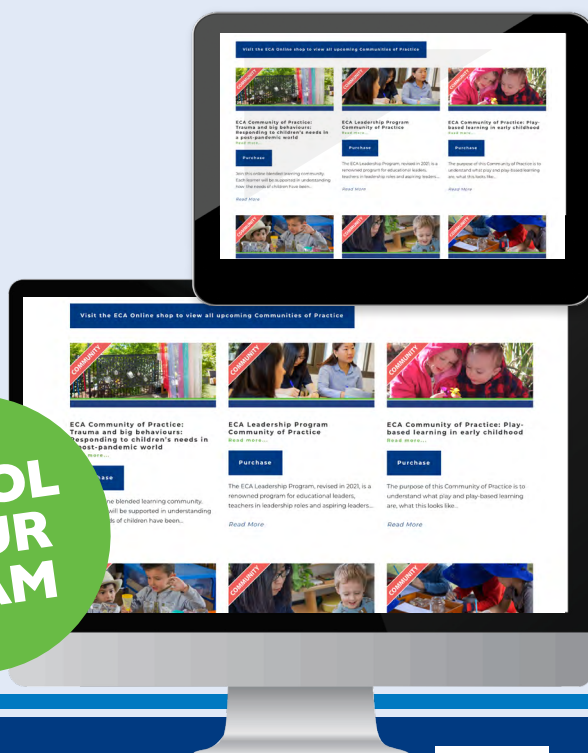
## Elements of Communities of Practice

- Professional learning materials
- Online learning modules
- ECA publications
- Live events
- An action research project
- Online forums through the ECA Learning Hub online portal

## Popular topics

- Behaviour guidance
- ECA Leadership Program
- Play-based learning in early childhood
- STEM in early childhood
- Literacy and language in early childhood

**ENROL  
YOUR  
TEAM**



**Learn more about ECA's Communities of Practice**





## ECA Events

ECA hosts a number of important events each year, with options to attend virtually and in person.

The biggest event on the ECA events calendar is the ECA National Conference, with over 2,000 early childhood professionals from across Australia and internationally attending each year. Our other key events include the ECA Reconciliation Symposium and the AJEC Research Symposium. Alongside these, we collaborate with governments and other organisations throughout the year to present virtual events and workshops and also offer bespoke or custom events for our sector.

## Calendar of events



- AJEC Research Symposium, 8–9 February 2024 (virtual event)



- Reconciliation Symposium, 3–4 May 2024, Canberra



- 2024 Early Childhood Australia National Conference, 17–20 September 2024, Brisbane

## Australasian Journal of Early Childhood (AJEC) Research Symposium

We invite early childhood practitioners, researchers, leaders, academics and students to exchange ideas, innovative research methodologies and findings. The symposium will also discuss the latest research and pedagogical practice from the longest-running and most highly regarded academic journal within the early childhood sector, produced by ECA, the *Australasian Journal of Early Childhood* (AJEC).

## ECA Reconciliation Symposium

The ECA Reconciliation Symposium brings the matter of reconciliation in early childhood into the spotlight and works towards a better future for all Australians.

Attendees at the ECA Reconciliation Symposium will learn about a culture dating back more than 40,000 years, and facilitated table discussions will lead to an atmosphere of dialogue, understanding and engagement between Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants.

The symposium will be held over two days and will be highly interactive. For those participants who attended the previous year's event, there will be updates from various speakers plus new presenters and ideas to build on the journey. ECA is seeking table facilitators for the duration of the event, and those who attended in a previous year may consider applying for this role during their registration.

The 2024 Reconciliation Symposium will be held at the National Convention Centre in Canberra, from Friday 3 to Saturday 4 May 2024.



**Early Childhood Australia**  
A voice for young children

EARLY CHILDHOOD AUSTRALIA

# Reconciliation SYMPOSIUM 2024

Advancing reconciliation in early  
childhood education and care

Canberra, ACT • 3—4 May 2024

## SAVE THE DATE

Find out about all ECA Events at:  
[www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/events](http://www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/events)



## Professional learning that supports practice across the National Quality Standard

ECA's publications and online learning resources are mapped to the quality areas of the *National Quality Standard* to support your quality improvement journey.

TITLE	RESOURCE TYPE	QA1	QA2	QA3	QA4	QA5	QA6	QA7
A conversation with Dr Stuart Shanker	ECA Learning Hub Online Module (Subscription only)	Y				Y		
A good place to be a child: Creating effective early learning environments	ECA Learning Hub Online Webinar	Y	Y	Y				
A guide to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures: The important first step to reconciliation	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication	Y				Y	Y	
ABC Kids: Exploring science content knowledge with <i>Imagine This</i>	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y				Y	Y	
Acceptance, justice and equality: Exploring reconciliation in early childhood education and care	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication	Y			Y		Y	Y
Acting ethically: Exploring the ECA <i>Code of Ethics</i>	ECA Learning Hub Online Webcast (Subscription only)						Y	Y
Active outdoor play	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	
An insight into Autism Spectrum Disorder in the early years (2-part series)	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y				Y		
Anti-bias approaches in early childhood	ECA Learning Hub Online Webcast	Y					Y	
Attuned routine experiences	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Becoming agents of change through advocacy	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication							
Being and becoming safe on our roads	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y
Being the champion for children impacted by trauma and adversity	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
<i>Belonging, Being &amp; Becoming: The Early Years Learning Framework (V2.0)</i>	ECA Learning Hub Online Module				Y			Y
Beyond the rainbow: Making a difference to all families	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y					Y	
Big life events: Impacts on children, families and communities	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y				Y	Y	
<i>Box of Leadership Provocations</i>	ECA Learning Hub signature publications and resources				Y		Y	Y
<i>Box of Provocations</i>	ECA Learning Hub signature publications and resources	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
<i>Box of Provocations: Birth to Threes Pedagogy</i>	ECA Learning Hub signature publications and resources	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
<i>Box of Provocations for Our Earth</i>	ECA Learning Hub signature publications and resources	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	
Bullying and harassment for employees	ECA Learning Hub Online Module				Y			
Bullying and harassment for managers and supervisors	ECA Learning Hub Online Module				Y			Y
Celebrating through relationships	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication	Y				Y	Y	
Child safe organisations—National principles (11-part series)	ECA Learning Hub Online Module (Subscription only)	Y	Y			Y	Y	
Children's rights: Every day and everywhere—Book 1	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Children's rights: Every day and everywhere—Book 2	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Community participation in early childhood education	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication			Y		Y	Y	
Continuous improvement: Supporting quality outcomes for children, families and communities	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Creating a community of support for children and families experiencing vulnerability	ECA Learning Hub Online Module					Y	Y	
Cultural inclusion	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication	Y				Y	Y	Y
Dealing with stress, pressure and burnout in education settings	ECA Learning Hub Online Module (Subscription only)							Y
Delving deeper into documenting and assessing children's learning	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y					Y	Y

TITLE	RESOURCE TYPE	QA1	QA2	QA3	QA4	QA5	QA6	QA7
Developing a happy, healthy and sustainable early childhood workplace	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication		Y	Y	Y			Y
Developing and maintaining a Quality Improvement Plan	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y			Y			Y
Documenting and assessing children's learning with Dr Anne Kennedy	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y				Y	Y	
Duty of care: Work health and safety in education and care	ECA Learning Hub Online Module		Y	Y	Y			Y
Early childhood education for sustainability: Now or never, a time for urgent change	ECA Learning Hub Online Webinar	Y		Y				
Early childhood educator wellbeing	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication	Y			Y	Y	Y	
Early childhood mathematics: Recognise, celebrate and build—Book 1	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication	Y		Y		Y	Y	
Early childhood mathematics: Recognise, celebrate and build—Book 2	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication	Y		Y		Y	Y	
Emotion coaching: A transformational tool	ECA Learning Hub Online Webcast	Y		Y		Y		
Encountering and interpreting the principles of Reggio Emilia Encounters (4-part series)	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y		Y		Y	Y	
Engaging with digital documentation and technology (3-part series)	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y			Y	Y	Y	Y
Engineering creativity: Celebrating loose parts play for all ages	ECA Learning Hub Online Webcast	Y		Y		Y		
eSafety Early Years: Creating a safe online environment	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y		Y				Y
eSafety Early Years: We MAKE and DO with technology	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y		Y				
eSafety Early Years: We SAY and SHARE with technology	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y		Y				
eSafety Early Years: We WATCH and EXPLORE with technology	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y		Y				
<i>Ethics in Action—A practical guide to implementing the ECA Code of Ethics</i>	ECA Learning Hub signature publications and resources	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Every child has a right to be included	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y				Y	Y	
Exploring literacy in the early years	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication	Y				Y		
Facilitating and extending play-based learning	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication	Y		Y				
Families: Where learning begins	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication	Y				Y	Y	
<i>First year at school: Essential tips for parents and carers</i>	ECA Learning Hub signature publications and resources		Y			Y	Y	
Fostering trusting relationships to support children with anxiety	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Helping children with difficult things	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication		Y			Y	Y	
Including spiritual learning in early childhood education and care	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Indoor environments: Spaces for children	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y		Y				
Induction essentials: A beginners guide to education and care	ECA Learning Hub Online Resource				Y			Y
Intentional teaching of cultural competence in play-based settings: A cultural–historical view	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication	Y					Y	
Intergenerational programs	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication	Y				Y	Y	Y
Initiating a Reconciliation Action Plan: Where do I start?	ECA Learning Hub Online Webcast				Y		Y	
Introducing inclusion: Looking at diversity and adversity through an inclusive framework	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	
Leadership-as-practice in early childhood education and care settings	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication							Y
Learning and development in the first three years	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	
Learning to read	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication	Y				Y		
Learning with nature—Benefit risk assessment	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y	Y	Y				
Learning with nature—Charcoal	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y	Y	Y				
Learning with nature—Drips, drops and dribbles	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y	Y	Y				
Learning with nature—Introduction to mud kitchens	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y	Y	Y				



TITLE	RESOURCE TYPE	QA1	QA2	QA3	QA4	QA5	QA6	QA7
Learning with nature—Introduction to nature pedagogy	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y	Y	Y				
Learning with nature—Leaves	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y	Y	Y				
Learning with nature—Light and shadow	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y	Y	Y				
Learning with nature—Puddles	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y	Y	Y				
Learning with nature—Rocks, stones and pebbles	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y	Y	Y				
Learning with nature—Wind	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y	Y	Y				
Let's talk: Creating a culture of learning — Places for teaching and learning for everyone	ECA Learning Hub Online Webinar	Y			Y			Y
Living spaces—Indoor learning environments	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication	Y		Y		Y		
Making connections with neurodiverse children through play (2-part series)	ECA Learning Hub Online Module					Y		
Making infant and toddler learning visible: Stories of change	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication	Y				Y		
Managing challenging exchanges: Responding professionally	ECA Learning Hub Online Module				Y			Y
Maths is everywhere	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y		Y				
Mentoring in early childhood education: A dynamic professional relationship	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication				Y			Y
Mindset matters	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication	Y		Y		Y		
Music in early childhood (2-part series)	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y				Y	Y	
NAIDOC Week: Stories of practice	ECA Learning Hub Online Webcast	Y				Y	Y	
Nature's laboratory: STEM Learning in the outdoors	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication	Y	Y			Y	Y	
Participatory Planning—The Floorbooks Approach (2-part series)	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y				Y		
Participatory planning—The Talking Tubs approach (2-part series)	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	y				y		
Partnerships with communities	ECA Learning Hub Online Module					Y	Y	
Partnerships with families	ECA Learning Hub Online Module					Y	Y	
Partnerships with families for inclusive practice (2-part series)	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y				Y	Y	
Philosophy leading strategy (3-part series)	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y			Y			Y
Play-based learning: Using the Pedagogical Play-framework	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y		Y		Y		
Playing with gratitude	ECA Learning Hub Online Webcast				Y			Y
Privacy awareness in children's services	ECA Learning Hub Online Webcast						Y	Y
Professionalism and identity in early childhood education and care: who we are and what we do	ECA Learning Hub Online Webcast				Y			Y
Professionalism, paperwork and pedagogy: Leading professional practice in long day care	ECA Learning Hub Online Webinar (Subscription only)	Y						Y
Promoting infant–toddler cognitive learning and development	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication	Y	Y	Y		Y		
Putting art in place (2-part series)	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y		Y		Y	Y	
Putting children first: Child safe organisations	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
<i>Reconciliation in Action</i>	ECA Learning Hub signature publications and resources	Y	Y			Y	Y	Y
Reconciliation in children's education and care: Taking the first steps	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y					Y	
Reform: An opportunity for action and advocacy	ECA Learning Hub Online Webinar				Y			
Respect: A guide to calm and nurturing infant care and education	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y	Y			Y	Y	
Risky play and the outdoors	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		
Routines and transitions: Embracing opportunities for learning	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y				Y		
Self-regulation of emotions	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication	Y				Y		
Sensory play and learning	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication	Y		Y				

TITLE	RESOURCE TYPE	QA1	QA2	QA3	QA4	QA5	QA6	QA7
Settling multiple children in early childhood education and care	ECA Learning Hub Online Module		Y	Y				
Sleep in early childhood	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
STEM in early childhood education	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication	Y		Y		Y	Y	Y
STEM inquiry: Co-constructed environments for curious minds	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y				Y	Y	
Stepping back and stepping in: Promoting children's agency	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication	Y	Y	Y		Y		
Strengthening quality through critical reflection and action research	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication	Y		Y	Y			Y
Supporting bilingualism during early childhood	ECA Learning Hub Online Webinar	Y					Y	
Supporting children's self-regulation: Ages three to five years	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y		Y		Y		
Supporting children's self-regulation: Birth to three years	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y		Y		Y		
Supporting language development in the early years	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y				Y	Y	
Supporting the wellbeing of parents and carers	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication					Y	Y	
Supporting young children experiencing parental separation and divorce	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication		Y			Y		
Supporting young children to ask productive questions	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication	Y		Y		Y	Y	
Take me outside: An introduction to outdoor learning	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y		Y				
Taking notice and taking care	ECA Learning Hub Online Module (Subscription only)				Y			Y
The art of leading in challenging times	ECA Learning Hub Online Module (Subscription only)							Y
The Circle of Security: Roadmap to building supportive relationships	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication	Y				Y	Y	
The planning cycle: Rediscovered	ECA Learning Hub Online Webinar	Y						
The value of play	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y				Y		
Transition to school: Communication and relationships	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication						Y	
Trauma-aware early childhood education and care	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication	Y	Y			Y	Y	Y
Understand the role: Nominated supervisor and person in day-to-day charge in education and care	ECA Learning Hub Online Module				Y			Y
Understanding and making art: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art in early childhood settings	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y				Y		
Understanding young children's behaviour and empowering their future (2-part series)	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y				Y	Y	
Using critical reflection	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y			Y			Y
Visual arts in early childhood settings	<i>Everyday Learning Series</i> Publication	Y		Y		Y		
Walking with children on their journey to literacy: Practitioner perspectives	ECA Learning Hub Online Module	Y				Y		
Wellbeing matters: A guide to why wellbeing matters at work	ECA Learning Hub Online Webcast				Y		Y	
Wellbeing matters: Let your wellbeing thrive!	ECA Learning Hub Online Webcast				Y			Y
Working in partnership with families facing adversity	<i>Research in Practice Series</i> Publication						Y	
Working with the ECA Code of Ethics	ECA Learning Hub Online Module				Y			Y
Your home, your business (2-part series)	ECA Learning Hub Online Module						Y	Y

ECA is an approved provider of teacher-accredited training with NESA and TQI. Go to the [ECA Learning Hub Accreditation page](#) for an up-to-date list of accredited courses.

For more resources linked to specific quality areas, please contact ECA by either calling 1800 356 900, or emailing us on [customerservice@earlychildhood.org.au](mailto:customerservice@earlychildhood.org.au).

# First year at school

## Essential tips for parents and carers



Starting primary school is an important milestone for children and families everywhere. As they gear up for this exciting journey, they have questions—lots of questions.

*First year at school* is written for families, teachers and educators to support children's transition to school. Written in an easy-to-read format, this book provides a range of practical tips for the classroom and answers common questions from families and children about their first year at school.



### THINGS YOU CAN DO ...

#### ... to support your child's learning through play

- If your child is becoming upset when playing with someone, try to help each child to see each other's point of view.
- If problems arise, offer support and guide your child, as necessary, to help build their skills.
- Have fun with your child; don't turn play into a lesson.
- Talk about what you see happening without judging. For example, you could say, 'Where does the bridge go to?' rather than 'That's not the way to build a bridge.'

### THINGS YOU CAN DO ...

#### ... to encourage positive behaviour

- Be consistent so your child knows the boundaries and what to expect.
- Involve your child in setting rules whenever you can.
- Give encouragement when you see positive behaviour, such as helping someone or being kind.
- Give choices: 'Would you like to play your drum outside or do something quiet inside with me?'
- Respond to your child's feelings: 'I know you feel cross, but it is not okay to hit. Let's think about what you could do instead.'

Discover these tips and more in *First year at school*. Whether you're a parent or carer, an early years educator or a primary school teacher, this guide is a must-have resource for navigating the pivotal journey into school life.

Visit the website or call 1800 356 900 to order today.  
[shop.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/fyas2023](http://shop.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/fyas2023)



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A voice for young children



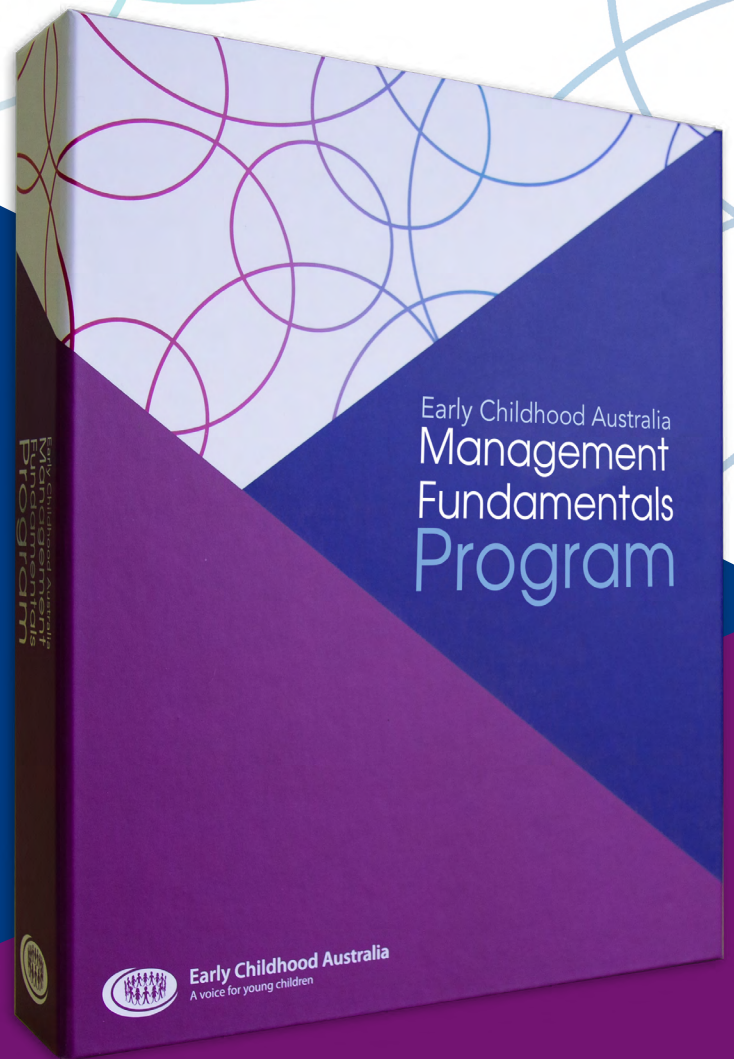
Early Childhood Australia has partnered with the Australian Primary Principals Association (APPA) to bring you *First Year at School* for over 15 years.



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