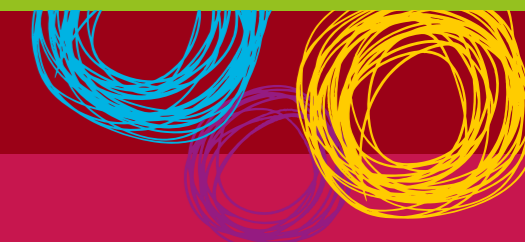


# Child-focused Activities and Groups Funding Scorecard

July 2016 – June 2017

To deliver activities that aim to support child learning and development.



## Outcomes for children and families

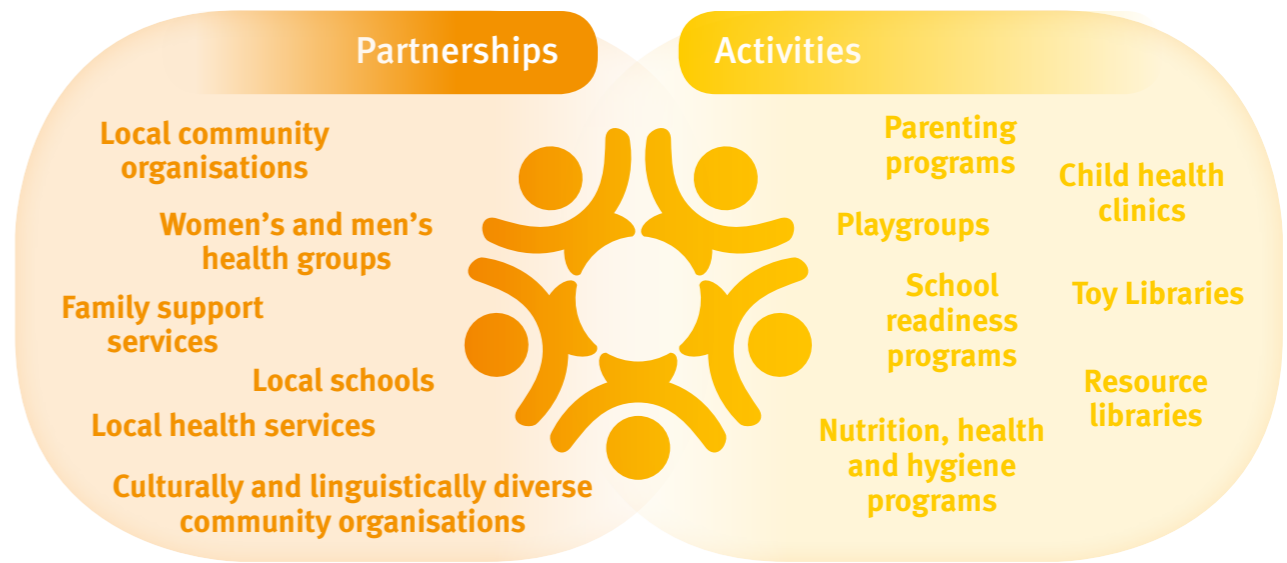


**78%** ↑ Parents/carers improving their engagement with their child/children

**73%** ↓ Parents/carers feel supported in their parenting

**90%** ↓ Parents/carers are satisfied with the activity

**5** child-focused activities and groups



## Feedback and observations

What has been the most significant change –

*“If not for this playgroup I would not have reached outside my comfort zone... friendships have been cemented and children have grown up together”*

*“We are confident to run our own school based playgroup now and are very appreciative of the initial support and model of the accessible playgroup initiative to get us to where we are now.”*

**76%** ↓ Parents/carers report their child/children are benefiting from participating in the activity

## Continuous Improvement

Services providing Child-Focused Activities and Groups will:

- strengthen connections with regional services (eg health, schools and neighbourhood centres) and agencies to provide more targeted assistance to children and parents/carers living in remote and isolated locations
- further develop understanding of outcomes reporting and build reporting capability
- create opportunities for parents to access specialist services in the local community by providing information and referral.

The Department of Education and Training will work with services providing Child-Focused Activities and Groups to:

- identify training and development opportunities about early childhood development and practice
- identify upcoming grant opportunities to support improvements in the quality of service provision, resources or environments
- establish and strengthen partnerships with regional services (eg health, schools and neighbourhood centres) who have a role to play in supporting parents and their children
- identify opportunities for developing networking opportunities across the state to improve parent engagement, practice and service delivery.

## Story behind the data

### Health and wellbeing

Families are being connected to **child health clinics and allied health services** after participating in playgroups. Services are using **practical and evidence based strategies** and programs including Circle of Security and Triple P to support children's health and development. Services are observing more **positive child parent relationships** and a gradual increase in mental health and wellbeing for those parents engaging in additional support programs.

### Parenting Support

Parents (especially in remote areas) are **feeling less isolated** after participating in playgroup activities. Access to information about early childhood developmental milestones and strategies is supporting parents to build their capacity and **confidence in their parenting role**. Parents are seeking improved access to information about **specialist services** and how they could access them in their local area.

### Partnerships

Strong links between playgroups and local schools is a significant factor in **supporting positive transition to kindergarten and school**. Additional support has been provided to remote and more isolated families and communities to build and maintain these positive relationships. Strong partnerships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and other culturally and linguistically diverse **community members and leaders has improved playgroup participation** and increased the sense of belonging in group activities.

### Participation and engagement

**Improvements in accessible transport** have supported children and parents to better participate in school readiness and transition activities. Conducting outreach **activities and programs** has encouraged new parents to join in and participate. Improving data collection processes may have contributed to changes in satisfaction and better off measures from parents/carers.

Annual scorecard for period July 2016 – June 2017. Data from some services has been delayed and was not available at the time of scorecard publication. 30% of the total number of parents / carers were surveyed on average across the Child-focused Activities and Groups category.



**821** ↑

Total # of children participating (past 12 months)

**1.1%** ↑

Children with disability

**44%** ↓

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children



**825** ↑

Total # of parents/carers participating (past 12 months)