

# Early Years Service Funding



## SECTOR SUPPORT

### Case Study Example

The Noah's Ark Resource Centre is a library and advisory service that aims to support the needs of children attending early childhood education services. They create a supportive, inclusive environment to facilitate learning and provide access to specialised equipment and aids.

Through Noah's Ark's many networks, focus is on having professional conversations about the needs of early childhood educators and children attending the services. These conversations lead to the development of strategies and access to a range of tailored resources.

#### **Target group**

Noah's Ark Resource Centre provides support to early childhood educators in kindergarten who educate children with disability and additional needs across Queensland.

#### **Case study**

A kindergarten on the Gold Coast requested an outreach visit to obtain resources and strategies to support inclusion of a child with additional needs.

#### **Activities**

Noah's Ark Resource Centre delivered the following support activities:

- Outreach visit to the kindergarten
- Worked with the early childhood teacher to identify her goals for the child
- Worked with the early childhood teacher to introduce strategies to engage the child
- Provided the following resources to the early childhood teacher to assist them with ongoing work around sensory motor activities identified from the outreach visit:
  - The Alert Program by Mary Sue Williams & Sherry Shellenberger
  - Take Five! Staying Alert at Home and School by Mary Sue Williams and Sherry Shellenberger
  - Jumpin' Jelly Beans (Music CD) - Gen Jereb
  - Sacred Earth Drums (Music CD) - this type of music is very rhythmical and therefore can calm the nervous system
  - The Out-of-Sync Child Has Fun: Activities for Kids with Sensory Processing Disorder by Carol Stock Kranowitz
  - The Little Book of Fine Motor Skills
  - Hands at Play
  - Social Skills Board Game

#### **Emergent issues**

It has been reported by services and educators that there has been an increase in challenging behaviour/needs of the children that may not necessarily be due to disability but due to family circumstances/situations (e.g. vulnerable families, mental health issues). Educators identify that they are becoming overwhelmed by multiple students with varying needs and trying to provide an inclusive environment whilst meeting learning requirements.

***Is anyone better off?***

By delivering the above activities and resources the following outcomes have been achieved:

Improved capacity and capability of the workforce:

- The early childhood teacher reports that they now have access to resources and is more confident to work closely with the child to support them in kindergarten.

Increased children's participation and engagement in early childhood education and care:

- The early childhood teacher reports that the child is now being supported to attend kindergarten and is increasingly engaged in activities.