Northern Territory Early Childhood Transitioning Package Millner Primary School





Millner Primary School

Millner Primary School is a multicultural Darwin school of approximately 200 students from preschool to Year 6. Millner Preschool is located 500 metres from the main campus of the primary school.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students make up nearly 40 per cent of the student body, coming from local areas, two town communities and some from remote communities.

Approximately 60 per cent of our student population who speak English as an additional dialect or language, with the most significant proportion coming from the Philippines. There are around 40 different dialect and language backgrounds in our student population.

2018 My School data shows Millner School's ICSEA (Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage) value as 870 with 52 per cent in the bottom quartile.

Taking action

As part of Millner Primary School's Strategic Plan, we focus on enrolments and attendance.

The Millner Preschool team recognises that if children and families are engaged in preschool then the probability of enrolment retention into Transition at the primary school is improved. Children will also attend more regularly if the programs the preschool provides are fun and engaging.

(reating change

Our school Principal supports our early childhood programs through the school's partnership with The Smith Family.



Together we provide three playgroups a week; two on the Millner Primary School campus and one at the Preschool to support connections with both sites. These playgroups aim to engage our families in early education and care and provide information on child development.

Another initiative we introduced at preschool as a way to bring families into school was our innovative 'Bush Preschool' program. A comprehensive Transitioning Action Plan was produced by the preschool, in consultation with staff, to work together to support schools, families, communities and children transitioning from home to playgroup and preschool and into Transition.



Click to view the Bush Preschool article



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The main challenge in this process was the compilation of our Transitioning Action Plan.

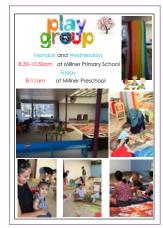


It had many sections and areas to consider and groups to work with to collect information while ensuring everyone's voices were heard.

It was challenging as it took a long time to complete all the steps we felt were needed, especially to build authentic, positive relationships through wellbeing, positive engagement and learning and teaching.



Click to view the Playgroup schedule





Click to view the Playgroup Plan

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	laygroup	o Mon/We		
Week	Topic	Children	Families	Learning
8	boxes	Bex construction	Weaving	Child development
9varn Away	food	cooking	Cooking-pirza	
10	But Trip	Wednesday Water park visit	loe block making	Maths
1	Nature	Nature craft	Earing making	Sociel skills
2	food	cooking	Cooking- Filipino	telking
3	Games	Game playing	Necklace	reading
4	Community helpers	Community helper craft	loe block making	Folice talk
5	Eus Trip	Painting and drawing	Card making	kidsefa
6	Food	Cooking and eating	Cooking- Lunch box ideas	dental
7	water	Water play	Making decorations	Water safety talk
8	Christmas	Christmas craft	Traditional cultural Christmas food	Santa visit

Initial findings

Although challenging to develop, the benefits of our Transitioning Action Plan were definitely worth it and helped us get all the steps in place.



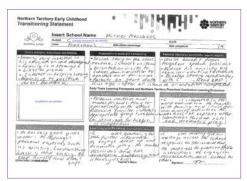
The Early Childhood Transitioning package helped families and children have their voice heard by completing the *Sharing about my child* form and the *Three wishes for my child* and *Something I would like my new teacher to know* sections of the transitioning statements.

The Transition teachers also found the statements helpful in getting to know the children coming into their class. Teachers mentioned learning about each child's strengths along with suggestions to help them with transitioning very useful.

Teachers also noted how each child was progressing across the five learning



Click to view a Millner School transitioning statement



outcomes of the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) with help from the use of the NT Preschool Curriculum supporting document.

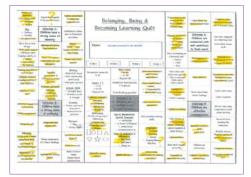
Attached to the transitioning statements were photos of each child and (if possible) their family, plus a Belonging, Being & Becoming Quilt detailing the EYLF Learning Outcomes.

A Transition teacher discussing how the transitioning statements and the accompanying resources supported her in gaining an understanding of the incoming children and their families said:

"I felt like I knew them really well before they had even arrived".



Click to view a Millner School Learning Quilt



Future planning

Each year the Transitioning Action Plan is updated to stay current, reflect the school's aims and to include the voice of our children and families.



Click to view the AEDC domain: emotional maturity

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This year's focuses were on the introduction of Bush Preschool with an aim to increase interest, enrolment and engagement in our school. This, alongside the introduction of our playgroups to engage younger children and their families, has had great results. Going forward we are using our Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) data to inform and plan ways we can support our **school**, the **community**, the **families** and most importantly the **children** of Millner.



Click to view the AEDC domain: social competence

Designation of this AFSC shareadre	How tax your program report to spinorability?	Note (or you work all other territors to required to submerability?	How can give much with families to respond to extra skilling?
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Click to view the AEDC domain: language and cognitive skills

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Receive Segmenting children to: • prioritien menung stells • prioritien menung press:	NormanDering practicing teamory activities Memory games	Provente playgramp	their maniples to families of memory games they can do at hose



Click to view the AEDC domain: physical health and wellbeing

Elements of this AEDC domain	How can your program respond to subseciality?	How can you work with other services to respond to vulnerability?	How can proceed with families to respond to coloscability?
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Presed independence Seguring still write - deschael physical independence - resplicit schael parkname - simmper goot continuous	Encourage independence in self-help skills outing tracking thesang Access to writing equipment and free metion, gross-motor activation		
Even and has note-skile • Obtawa Badrag process: Bill Androging • Obtawa has been every shell. for descent a strates	Gradual more challenging provised for motor activities (cours adequate boat and rest		Buller to services

Click to view the AEDC domain: communication skills and general knowledge

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Communication and a sing prevail secondary Instructional Instructional Instructional and This would be also instruction and the second in and and a second secondary of works, and instruction and the second in a second Instruction in large agreement is performant large agreement	Explicitly reach or artising sage arising for moreh than of visual to support language capitoly teaching and tanguage at mart time for a group threasy and language game supported by staff	Provode graggroup for pre-pre- schoolon di programmente graggroup internationalente auty anternatione di headed	Mare ideos with Camilies on Lenguag/Autrieg games Pragmag 4 Syrold games Abecodurus	
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Northern Territory Early Childhood Transitioning Millner School Action Plan

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		POSI	TIVE RELATIONSHIPS thro	ugh	INFLUENCING FACTORS
0		Wellbeing	Positive Engagement	Learning and Teaching	To consider Relationship centred, Community engagement, Culturally responsive, Strengths based, Trauma informed
READY SCHOOLS Welcoming and inclusive places	ACTIONS	 Identify children eligible for term1 enrolment for Preschool Preschool's students information form to be filled out by parents and given to preschool teachers before start of preschool year. Preschool teachers and Principal to discuss children enrolling in preschool. Identify children who will be continuing in Millner in Transition Identify children who will be continuing in Millner in Transition Transitioning statement prepared by preschool teachers, family and children to be given to transition teachers Provide a safe and welcoming space within the Preschool and Transition for all families. Ensure the street appeal for preschool in present with an ongoing maintenance invested in the preschool gardens 	 Transition teachers to visit the Preschool term 3 and 4 to familiarise themselves with the students and families commencing in Transition in Term 1. Children from Preschool to access Transition classrooms as part of the orientation process over a period of many weeks in term 3 when parents decisions are being made Preschool and Transition classes to collaborate on events such as open evening classrooms, joining for assembly, special events such as picnics, play sessions School staff to make one visit in term3 and 4 for 10 minutes around parent drop off or pick up time to introduce themselves to parents and promote the school thus encouraging continual enrolments 	 Information regarding Preschool students going to Millner transition to be handed to Transition teachers including ASC data and transition statements. Information on transition students handed to year 1 teachers on reading and spelling levels and maths and writing competences Completed enrolments for Preschool to be given to SAMS officer to be processed. Student information sheets which are now part of the enrolment package to be given to preschool teachers 	 Ensure ALL staff are informed of preschool visiting transition classes and expectations are clear Provide welcoming classroom at preschool for staff visits and families
	TIMEFRAME	Term 1 and 3 (ongoing) Early Term 4 Ongoing	• Term 3 and 4	• Term 4 • Term 1	 Term 4, week 7 and 8 ongoing
	RESOURCES	 Preschool Teachers, Transition Teachers, Office staff .gardener and Principal 	 Preschool Teachers, Transition teachers, Teacher assistants and all staff 	Preschool staff, SAMS officer and transition teachers	Early Years Senior Teacher, Preschool and Transition teacher and teacher assistants.
READY FAMILIES Engaged and informed partners	ACTIONS	 Welcome to Preschool packs to relevant families to include preschool handbook, enrolment forms student information forms, local childcare providers and information on the back to school payment scheme. Provide ongoing orientation visits for families and children leading up to the commencement in Transition. Develop relationships with families in the community 0-3 years (Playgroup). Provide playgroups at primary school on Monday and Wednesday and a playgroup at preschool on Friday 	 Communicate through Class Seesaw and the Millner School Facebook page regularly about happenings within Preschool and Transition. Preschool and playgroup to contribute to schools newsletter each edition Preschool children to attend assemblies term 3 and 4 and other special whole school events or special events when appropriate. Leadership team to engage with new families in orientation events. Parents accompany children with orientation visits. 	 Invitations for families to be part of the parent action group 	 ESL families, families without internet/phone access Ensure preschool phone number is in phone book Contact council for preschool sign on street sign
	TIMEFRAME	Term 3 and 4 Ongoing all year	Ongoing throughout the yearTerm 3 and 4	• Term 1	•
	RESOURCES	 All Preschool and transition staff, Principal 	 Leadership team, Preschool teachers, teacher assistants, Transition teachers. 	Leadership team	•
READY COMMUNITIES AND SERVICES Contributing and informed teams	ACTIONS	 Source up to date information on available community services for families via pamphlets that will be displayed in front office, preschool waiting area and playgroup at big school area Playgroup to operate 3 times per week Twice at school (area near transition rooms transformed to playgroup room) and once at preschool Term 3 and 4 Millner preschool to access all the community visits such as school based police, water and road safety, dental and health care professionals, croc wise Bush school term 3 to activate interest in school enrolments via innovative practise Visit local childcare settings and provide Millner school packages for children eligible for Preschool in Millner's local area plus Kululuk, Minmarrama and Bagot communities 	 ASC to be filled out on students who may not be making the regular developmental milestones Transition statements for all children moving from Preschool to Transition. 	 Referrals in place for relevant Preschool children Early Years pathway leader and interagency support invited to provide professional learning where relevant. 	 Time frames for referrals to be processed Playgroup at big school identify location, set up and advertise through Facebook, contact list and street sign similar to preschool playgroup sign. Place sign on Sabine road
	TIMEFRAME	 Ongoing throughout the year Term 3/4 	• Term 4	Ongoing Ongoing	•
	RESOURCES	NT Health, Darwin City Council, Local Childcare centres;	Preschool Teachers, Transition teachers.	Special education and Preschool teachers,	•
READY CHILDREN	ACTIONS	 To complete student voice on Transition statements with the help of families and then passed back to preschool teachers to forward on to transition teachers 	 Eligible Preschool children to engage in visits/orientation to transition to develop familiarity with the environment. Eligible children to engage in visits to preschool to familiarise themselves with the preschool environment. Provide open week ,information evening ,tour on request scheduled during preschool teachers release time 	 Develop "what my teacher needs to know about me." From the transitioning package Weekly playgroup in Preschool on Friday Twice a week playgroup at big school 	•
Confident and capable learners	TIMEFRAME	• Term 4	Term 3 Term 4 on request	Term 4 Ongoing	•
	RESOURCES	Transition teachers, Preschool Teachers,	Preschool and transition teams	Early years pathways leader	

Preschoolers go bush in pilot program

A group of Millner Preschool students were treated to an inaugural Bush School, just a short walk from the school.

The school was a sevenweek trial to gauge students' level of engagement and learning through nature-based play.

Preschool teacher-incharge, <u>Varn</u> (Myfanwy) Baker, said the project caters for children "who predominantly live in flats, and don't do much outside activity".

"The Bush School at the



Rapid Creek Landcare area can provide a range of nature-based play benefits, including a decrease in behavioural disorders, anxiety and depression, better language and collaboration skills, greater stress-related resilience, and a stage for environmental care education," she said.

"Through the school, held each Thursday, students learnt games and to be in nature, they joined in activities, and listened to a range of guest speakers, including those from Crocwise, Wildcare, PAWS, Aboriginal elders and an animal education officer.

"Some of the art activities undertaken included leaf window collage, rubbings, the construction of nature mobiles, pet rock painting, splatter leaf painting and papermaking.

"The students developed collection, observation, and sorting skills using the five senses, an environmental vocabulary, learned survival tips and first aid.

"This has been a highly successful initiative of our preschool team, and one we'd like to repeat each year during the cool months."





Monday and Wednesdays 8.30-10.30am at Millner Primary School Friday 8-11am at Millner Preschool

















Millner Playgroup Mon/Wed-8.30-10.30

Week	Topic	Children	Families	Learning
8	boxes	Box construction	Weaving	Child development
9Varn Away	food	cooking	Cooking-pizza	
10	Bus Trip	Wednesday Water park visit	Ice block making	Maths
1	Nature Nature craft Earing		Earing making	Social skills
2	2 food		cooking Cooking- Filipino	
3	Games	Game playing	ame playing Necklace making	
4	Community helpers	Community helper craft	Ice block making	Police talk
5	D		Card making	<u>kidsafe</u>
6	Food Cooking and Cooking- eating Lunch box ideas		Lunch box	dental
7	7 ^{water}		Making decorations	Water safety talk
8 Christmas		Christmas craft	Traditional cultural Christmas food	Santa visit



Northern Territory Early Childhood NORTHERN **Transitioning Statement** Insert School Name Millner Preschool C (names removed to de-identify) Student: D.O.B: SCHOOL LOGO Class: Preschonc. Attendance percentage: Date completed: 9 Child's strengths, motivations and interests Suggestions to assist with transitioning Additional information about further support required · Family very invested in · Social story on the class · could benefit from Lis education and development routine, school's uniform toughted speech sessions · Family 13 a strength · Orientation visits to · Reduce his anxiety by · Likes to please school familiarisation to regula- voutines &stublishe >, Interest in helping + doing teachers and friends · Bevelop strong relationshy, - Reporsi re to positive WITH C' Parents on start date . Read EAP. Verbal feedback; Iciss +90 - after all intensive orientation completed. Early Years Learning Framework and Northern Territory Preschool Curriculum Learning Outcomes Identify: EYLF Learning Outcome 1 Connectedness: EYLF Learning Ourcome 2 · Follows northes and • C 1) interested in the (modified to de-identify) mades friends. Play cowould ago ind him. He travels operatively with others with family and involudi. conmunity activities. At Buoning Similar interests Appropriate group time belie identities through role an share, sisk for heggs + and dramatic play. is independent. Wellbeing: EYLF Learning Outcome 3 Learning and Thinking: EYLF Learning Outcome Communication: EVL: Leaning Oncome 5 · He has very good gross • (USES questioning to ·C· can mostly get his motor, HE Mignages seek further information. message across the listensi He enjoys dress of and personal voutines such HSponds to Stories and text dramitic play. He make as toileting, hardwashing Re responses to questions eAdle. decisions and has Instructions He engages in dressing and eating. He developing numeraly ar conversation and listens DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION 11 Peraconskills others Teacher's Name: Signature: Click to go back

Makes and mainteins friendships with * Children * Adults	Separates happily from parent/carer	Follows preschool routines and expectations	5 (2) (A) (A) (A) (A) (A) (A) (A) (A) (A) (A	<u>onging, Bein</u> ing Learnin	and Charles and a second s	Interested in and aware of the environment around them	Talk s about the w <mark>orld arou</mark> nd them	Explores other identities through role & dramatic play
Play * Solitary * Parallel * Co-operatively	Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity	Confidently takes part in Preschool activities	Decom	ing Learnin	<u>y Quin</u>	Chooses to learn in * An indoor environment	Outcome 2: Children are connected with	Uses the computer as a learning tool
Has a try at new things: * With adult support • Without adult	Appropriate group time behaviour	Gives: Name Age Names members of	Name (n	ames removed to de-ider	tify)	* An autdoor environment	and contribute to their world	Controlled mouse skills
 Without data Displays ability to Share Turn taking Be tolerant 	Cares for and is responsible for own belongings	own family Seeks help when needed	TERM 1	TERM 2 TERM	3 TERM 4	Uses technology as a learning tool: * Camera * IWB * iPad	Participates in cultural activities	Awareness & involvement in local columnity events
Running smoothly & turn on spot Jumping forward standing position 2	Sensible participant in emergency action practice	Writing * Right/left hand * Uses sustainable pencil grip	Recognises numerals 0-10	Rote Count To 10 * To 20 * Beyond 20	Uses questioning to seek further information	Uses clear and effective speech * Talks in sentences * With adults	Uses manners	Recognises own name Recognises some environmental print
fe et together Hopping on each foot	Manages personal routines * Tolkting * Handwashing * Dressing	 Has good control Scissor Skills Straight lines Around a circle & triangle 	Counts 1:1 * To 10 * To 20 * Beyond 20 Explores scientific	Completes inset puzzles 7-9 pieces Interlocking puzzles	Plays simple board games * Independently * With adult help	* With children Engages in conversations in * English * Home Language	Describes/talks about feelings	Copies own name Copies symbols
lancing on each foo 5 <mark>-8 seconds</mark>	1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1	Drawing * Draws a person 6 body parts * Representative	 <u>concepts</u> Designing Measuring Weighing 	Children are a confatere and hudved learners	Uses construction equipment	Listens to others	Outcome 5: Children are effective	Writes own name Experiments with
limbs competently	af wellbeing Keeps self and	pictures Manages	Patterning • Recalls missing object • Matching • Sequencing	Say & demonstrate Spatial Concepts • on/in/out	Uses problem solving skills	Tells stories &	communicators	other writing Demonstrates reading like
Swings by self	others safe	* Glue * Sticky fope	Identifies basic	 in front of/behind under/over between/next to 	Creativity: Drawing	ideas – drawings, copied symbols & some letters	Resolves conflict with adult help	behaviour Retells stories
Ball skills atch with 2 hands away from body	Shows awareness	Can thread small objects		Aware of similarities & differences * Big/small * Tall/short	 Painting Torama Singing/Music 	A <mark>sks questio</mark> ns		Repeats series of spaken words once aloud
Us <mark>e thumb to</mark> touch each finger	of others feelings	Hammers nails		* fall/short * Same as	Rhythm	Soys most sounds correctly	Follows one instruction	Listens to stories
Remembers to vears appropriate hat outside	Appropriate eating habits	Build 10 block tower Copies block construction	Identifies basic colours	Makes decisions	Effectively contributes to cooking activities	Responds to questions verbally	Follows 3 unrelated	Responds to choused

to

AEDC domain: Social competence Elements of this AEDC domain How can you work with other How can you work with families to How can your program respond to services to respond to vulnerability? respond to vulnerability? vulnerabilitv? Overall social competence Explicitly teach social skills Promote playgroup Supporting children to: develop social skills Provide age appropriate activities for develop confidence confidence and sense of achievement play with well others Turn-taking games praise safe cooperative play Responsibility and respect Consequences to actions Supporting children to: Own place for belongings accept responsibility for their actions Strategies for self-regulation show little respect for others and for property demonstrate self-control Approaches to learning Refer to services Create situations to practise problem Supporting children to: solving Big school orientations to prepare for develop problem solving skills Visual rules next year work independently Constant routine follow rules and routines adjust to changes in environments Pre-warn changes and routines Invite families to participate in bush Readiness to explore new things Provide interesting activities Supporting children to: school Bush school show curiosity about the world Access to rich learning environment Provide info about upcoming events

Excursions/incursions such as

Swim school

in community

 explore new books, toys, objects and games

Click to go back

AEDC domain: Physical health and wellbeing

Elements of this AEDC domain	How can your program respond to vulnerability?	How can you work with other services to respond to vulnerability?	How can you work with families to respond to vulnerability?
 Physical readiness for the day Supporting children and their families to ensure children: are dressed appropriately for the day have enough to eat and are not hungry get adequate sleep and are not tired 	Provide uniforms as p[art of the back to school voucher Provide fruit and healthy spare food Access to rest and relaxation areas		Provide families with information and community support programs
 Physical independence Supporting children to: developed physical independence establish a hand preference developed good coordination 	Encourage independence in self-help skills-eating,toileting,dressing Access to writing equipment and fine motor, gross motor activities		
 Gross and fine motor skills Children finding gross and fine motor skills challenging Children have low energy levels for physical activities 	Gradual more challenging gross and fine motor activities Ensure adequate food and rest		Refer to services



Elements of this AEDC domain	How can your program respond to vulnerability?	How can you work with other services to respond to vulnerability?	How can you work with families to respond to vulnerability?	
 Pro-social and helping behaviour Supporting children to: show helping behaviours for someone sick, hurt or upset help others spontaneously invite others to join their activity 	Compassion for others Model care of others first aid Inclusive practise teaching children to ask Can I play	Community health Nurse visit Ambulance visit Sports clinic	Referral to services playgroups	
 Anxious and fearful behaviour Supporting children to: talk about things that worry them identify and cope with fearful and anxious moments open up and feel comfortable with a range of people make decisions for themselves 	Explore feelings Read/discuss books on feelings Responsive caregivers Agentic child choice	Be You program Special Ed teacher support	Referral to head space or psychological services Opportunities to be involved in activities	
 Aggressive behaviour Supporting children to: negotiate with others without temper tantrums share with others and not take from others avoid aggressive behaviour, such as biting, kicking or hitting others 	Explicitly teach how to negotiate Sharing and turn taking games Rules visual	Intensive behaviour unit Behaviour student services	Visual rules for families Social stories(sodas social stories) Referral to student services/behaviour unit	
Hyperactivity and inattention Supporting children to: • focus on specific task for a period of time • control impulsive behaviours	Sensory toys on mat Magic mats Yoga/meditation	Student services referral for assistance	Pead referral to check for ADHD	

AEDC domain: Lang	guage and cognitive skills		
Elements of this AEDC domain	How can your program respond to vulnerability?	How can you work with other services to respond to vulnerability?	How can you work with families to respond to vulnerability?
 Literacy Supporting children to: identify letters and attaching sounds to them join in rhyming word songs and games develop an interest in reading and books understand how to handle a book write their own name and other age appropriate words 	Letter/sound games Nursery rhyme singing rhyming good bye song Shared reading Access to name copying and letter mats	Promote playgroup Smith Family "Let's read program"	Hold a Let's read morning tea to educate families on importance of early reading Provide families with books to read at home
 Numeracy Supporting children to: develop an interest in counting and number games recognise and name shapes Understand the concept of time, days of the week, hours in the day, etc. 	Maths games activities shape game,puzzles,books Routines Days of week song Match day to activity	Smith family "Let's count "Program Promote playgroup	Morning tea for "Let's Count" importance of numeracy at home Provide families with games to play at home
Memory Supporting children to: • practice memory skills • play memory games	Remembering practising memory activities Memory games	Promote playgroup	Give examples to families of memory games they can do at home

AEDC domain: Communication skills and general knowledge			
Elements of this AEDC domain	How can your program respond to vulnerability?	How can you work with other services to respond to vulnerability?	How can you work with families to respond to vulnerability?
 Communication skills and general knowledge Supporting children to: communicate what they need in any way they can begin communicating in using verbal and written language – in their first language and in English communicate effectively with other children develop an interest in language games participate in language games 	Explicitly teach oral language asking for needs Use of visuals to support language Explicitly teaching oral language at mat time Small group literacy and language game supported by staff	Promote playgroup for pre-pre- schoolers At playgroup screen/recommend early intervention if needed	Share ideas with families on language/learning games Playgroup 4-5yr old games Abecedarian
General knowledge Supporting children to: • understand the world around them, such as: • their family • their culture • their community • the environment • participate in the world around them	Family events mothers /father's day morning afternoon teas Culture harmony day and activities Big book on various cultures Term 3 communityvisits-Dental,raod and water safety visits Bush school on environment	Community visits Boof the Barra Hector the cat School based constables Crocwise Dental	Family involvement in culture days community visits and bush school

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