

Fact sheet for all families

Flying Start
for kids

The South Australian Aboriginal Early Childhood Strategy focuses on improving outcomes for Aboriginal children in the early years.

Grounded in the understanding that all children thrive in inclusive learning environments that are connected to community, the Strategy supports Aboriginal children to grow up strong in their Culture, identity and connection to Community.

The Strategy has been co-designed in partnership with Aboriginal families, Elders, Communities, Aboriginal organisations and Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisations (ACCOs*), with a shared goal of ensuring Aboriginal children benefit from South Australia's move to universal 3-year-old preschool.

Flying Start reforms

This Strategy is part of the broader Flying Start reforms, which include the statewide roll-out of universal 3-year-old preschool. The teacher-led, play-based program is designed to help every child build confidence, curiosity and develop the skills they need to thrive in learning and in life.

Visit earlychildhood.sa.gov.au or scan the QR code to learn more about Flying Start.

Investing in Aboriginal children, families and Communities

The South Australian Government is investing \$1.9 billion to expand early childhood education, which includes targeted funding to improve outcomes for Aboriginal children:

- \$35 million over 4 years
- \$12.8 million per year ongoing each year after that
- \$5.8 million to strengthen the Aboriginal early childhood workforce through the [South Australian Aboriginal Early Childhood Workforce Strategy](#).

This investment is designed to:

- give all children greater access to preschool before starting school
- strengthen the range of services available across settings, including preschools and long day care
- support all children to learn and grow, while ensuring Aboriginal children are supported in ways that recognise and build on their strengths.

Goals

Preschool will strengthen identity and support healthy development and learning

Families and Communities will experience a Culturally responsive and better-connected early childhood service ecosystem



Government of
South Australia

South Australian Aboriginal
Early Childhood Strategy

Why it matters

The early years are critically important to a child's learning, health and wellbeing. Because most brain development happens before age 5, everyday interactions in these early years help build strong foundations for life.

Children benefit from environments that:

- are inclusive, respectful, and reflect the cultures and perspectives of the communities they live in
- support the development of understanding, respect and a sense of belonging in a diverse society
- provide high-quality programs that support learning, development and wellbeing
- are supported by educators who work in partnership with families, recognising caregivers as children's first teachers.

If you are caring for an Aboriginal child, the Strategy is designed to help you support their connection to Culture, Community and identity as they grow and learn.

This includes support to connect with:

- services and programs provided by ACCOs
- Aboriginal Community Liaison Officers
- Aboriginal playgroups and other Community programs.

Connecting with these services can strengthen a child's sense of identity, wellbeing and belonging, alongside the services you already use.

* When referring to ACCOs we are inclusive of ACCHOs and ACCO ECEOs and in doing so, we recognise the unique setting of each.

What changes you will see

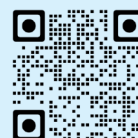
The changes are designed to improve service quality and make it easier to access additional support for children's learning, development and wellbeing.

As the Strategy rolls out across South Australia, you will begin to see:

- More early learning services that reflect Aboriginal Cultures, histories and perspectives
- Greater involvement of Aboriginal staff, Elders and Community
- Stronger collaboration between early learning, health and family services
- Clearer information about the range of available services, including those tailored to Aboriginal children.



Find out more



Scan the QR code, or visit the link below

earlychildhood.sa.gov.au/AECS