

Fact sheet for Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations

Flying Start
for kids

The South Australian Aboriginal Early Childhood Strategy sets a clear direction to improve outcomes for Aboriginal children in their early years.

It focuses on building a stronger, more connected early childhood system grounded in Aboriginal leadership, Culture and ways of knowing, being and doing. This work will support Aboriginal children across South Australia to grow up strong in their identity, Culture and connection to Community and Country.

The Strategy was shaped through co-design with Aboriginal organisations, Communities, Elders and families, and recognises the central role of Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs*) in supporting this work.

The Strategy in action

The Strategy is designed to support a future where:

- Aboriginal children will have greater access to high-quality early learning grounded in Culture
- Aboriginal children will grow strong in their identity, Culture and connection to Community and Country
- families are recognised and supported as First Teachers and partners
- early years services will better support children's development, wellbeing and long-term outcomes.

Working together to deliver change

The Strategy builds on South Australia's long-standing access to preschool for Aboriginal children and supports ACCOs to play a central role in the transition to universal 3-year-old preschool.

Through the Strategy, the South Australian Government is investing \$35 million over the next 4 years, with ongoing funding of \$12.8 million per year from 2030-31, alongside \$5.8 million under the [South Australian Aboriginal Early Childhood Workforce Strategy](#) to build the Aboriginal early childhood workforce. This is in addition to the estimated benefit of more than \$40 million to 2032 for broader reforms empowering Aboriginal children, families and Communities.

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

The important role of ACCOs

The Strategy recognises ACCOs as key leaders and delivery partners in early childhood.

ACCOs are uniquely placed to:

- deliver services that are trusted, Culturally grounded and Community-led
- respond to local priorities and strengths
- support stronger engagement with families and children.

What this means for ACCOs

The Strategy will strengthen the way early childhood services are funded and delivered, with ACCOs playing a central role through:

- stronger recognition of ACCOs as leaders in early childhood education and care
- expanded opportunities to design, deliver and lead services
- greater influence in shaping place-based responses.

Supporting ACCO growth

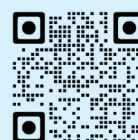
The Strategy is designed to better enable Early Childhood Education and Care ACCOs to lead and grow early childhood services in their Communities, including through:

- flexible and tailored funding to support ACCO growth, sustainability and capability
- investment in infrastructure to strengthen and expand services
- support to grow and sustain the Aboriginal early childhood workforce
- clear pathways for ACCOs to establish and deliver preschool and integrated early years services.



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

Find out more



Scan the QR code, or visit the link below

earlychildhood.sa.gov.au/AECS



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