

Flying Start 2026 Professional Networks Webinar

Q & A summary

Q: Is it possible for a service to fund an additional person to participate in their Professional Network?

A: At this stage, participation is limited to one nominated person per service to support balanced representation across services in the network.

We're currently exploring additional ways for partners and sector representatives to connect beyond the Professional Networks next year, and we welcome your ideas and feedback.

Q: Does each service have the flexibility to nominate whoever they believe is best suited to attend?

A: Yes, each service has the flexibility to nominate the individual they believe is best suited.

While we welcome a diverse mix of participants, including people leaders and educators from a range of backgrounds, educators are likely to gain the most direct benefit from being involved.

An important consideration is ensuring the individual is supported to attend the meetings and can commit to the full 2-year project.

Q: What happens if the nominated person leaves a service?

A: We understand that staff may leave your service, and if this happens, another team member can be nominated to take their place.

Our Professional Network Leads are trained to welcome and support new members and bring them up to speed, so they feel comfortable and connected.

To help build strong relationships and maintain consistency, the networks are based on a membership approach where the same people attend each meeting across the 2-year initiative. It is not possible to send a different team member to each session.

Q: Who sets the agenda for the Professional Network meetings, and will it be shared ahead of time?

A: Professional Network Leads will work together with members to co-design a forward plan and meeting topics that reflect local needs and shared goals. This will be guided by member insights, local data, and AEDC findings, as well as aligning with broader reform objectives focused on reducing children's developmental vulnerability.

In the initial meetings, you'll work together to clarify goals and shape a plan. The Network Lead will share the plan ahead of time, allowing everyone to reflect and contribute meaningfully to each meeting.

