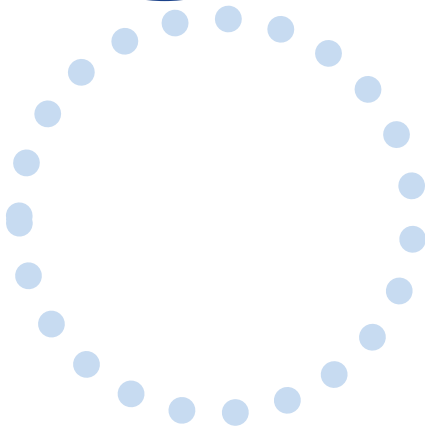
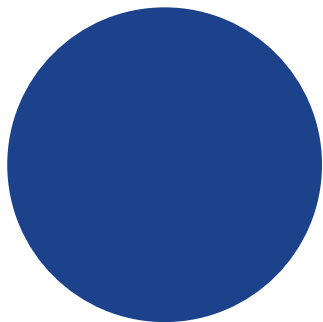


Preschool Aboriginal Languages and Culture project



About the project

Department of Education preschools as part of the NSW public school system are committed to the provision of high quality education and care by providing culturally inclusive preschool programs. This project aims to increase the level of Aboriginal Languages being taught in Department of Education preschools across the state.

To increase the amount of Aboriginal Language being taught in preschools, funding of up to \$30,000 will be made to available to preschools with a high enrolment number of Aboriginal students to engage a community member/organisation to deliver an Aboriginal Languages program in the preschool.

Project objectives

This project aligns with the Early Years Learning Framework which asks early childhood educators to build upon children's understandings of diversity, specifically Aboriginal Cultures.

The project aims:

- to increase the literacy and vocabulary skills of Aboriginal children in NSW
- to support Aboriginal children to develop into bilingual speakers
- to develop stronger links between NSW Public Schools Preschools and their local Aboriginal communities
- to increase and strengthen Aboriginal Language and Culture programs being delivered in Preschools in NSW Public Schools
- to support all children in learning Aboriginal Culture and Language.

Language program delivery criteria

- The program must be co-developed and delivered by the early childhood teacher at the preschool.
- The preschool must be prepared to commit to an evaluation and reporting process (including quantitative delivery data, student progress, feedback, and testimonials) over the course of the program (calendar year 2021). This will include term-by-term reporting, and mid-year, final and post-program evaluations.
- The Language component of the program must be co-developed and delivered by an Aboriginal person who has support to deliver a local Aboriginal Language program. Documented support will be required as part of the application process and includes:

- Proof that the organisation responsible for the Language component of the program is recognised as an Aboriginal organisation (e.g., ORIC registration, documentation showing 51% Aboriginal ownership, or any other relevant documentation), or
- Documentation confirming support for an individual to deliver a local Aboriginal Language program (e.g., a letter of support from the Local AECG, NSW Land Council, or other relevant local Aboriginal organisation.
- Agreement minuted by the Local or Regional AECG (or State AECG where these are not present).

Expression of interest process

Preschools interested in participating in this project should submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to aboriginalearlylanguages@det.nsw.edu.au by COB Friday 6 November 2020 outlining the following criteria:

- details of the Aboriginal Language being taught
- method of delivery
- frequency of the program
- number of children (including Aboriginal children) that the Aboriginal Language program will be delivered to
- projected costs/funds sought to deliver the program (this would typically be \$10,000 per class to a maximum of \$30,000)
- documentation from the organisation or individual delivering the Aboriginal Language program confirming qualification and approval to deliver a local Aboriginal Language program. This might include a letter of support from Local AECG, Land Council or other relevant local Aboriginal organisation.
- evidence of agreement from the relevant Local or Regional AECG (or State AECG where these are not possible).
- endorsement from the school Principal.

Assessment criteria

Applications will be considered against the following criteria:

- the ability of the Aboriginal Language program to meet the program objectives and eligibility criteria
- the proposed model of delivery of the Aboriginal Language, including the number of children the Aboriginal Language program will be delivered to

- demonstrated ability of applicants to deliver an Aboriginal Language program
- the geographic and linguistic distribution of program delivery across NSW.