

Innovative Solutions Support Funded Projects 2018



In partnership with

Include Me.
Child and Family
Inclusion Programs.

Innovative Solutions projects are designed to address specific barriers to inclusion and lead to the genuine inclusion of children with additional needs and build the capacity of educators.

Supporting children's social and emotional wellbeing, including guiding children's behaviour. 2018 projects included specialists providing coaching to educators to build their capacity to understand, respond to and guide children presenting with and challenging behaviours, make adjustments to environments and programs, and learn specific strategies to assist children to manage their emotions and self-regulate.

Mentoring educators to learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. 2018 projects included those where services connected with local Elders and community members to listen to their stories, and introduce educators and children to music, songs, language and experiences to build their understanding of local indigenous culture and the land on which they meet, to enable educators to begin to incorporate this learning into their curriculum.

Supporting children from culturally and linguistic diverse backgrounds in 2018 through projects which provide bilingual and bicultural workers, including Auslan interpreters, to support the inclusion of children; and build the confidence of educators to support children and families from different linguistic and cultural backgrounds.

Building educator capacity to support children with language and communication delays. 2018 projects where specialists worked with teams to build their capacity to implement effective communication strategies with children. This included projects where educators learnt new communication approaches and how to implement these effectively in their services, such as use of visual aids and Makaton signing.

Specialist advice & mentoring from Allied Health Professionals. In 2018 this included engaging speech pathologists, occupational therapists, behaviour specialists and autism spectrum disorder specialists, to provide tailored support to address the specific barriers to inclusion at the service for children with a disability and build educator capacity to incorporate new strategies into every day practice.

Targeted specialist training was provided in 2018 for educators to gain specific skills and training essential to the inclusion of a child with a medical condition.

Enhancing inclusive perspectives and understanding included projects to develop children's understanding of their peers living with a disability, such as school aged children experiencing and discussing using wheelchairs for mobility.

Supporting school aged children to identify, express and manage their emotions. In 2018 projects focussed around creative and expressive arts were conducted. Educators learned to use different mediums to support children's communication and social and emotional development.