



# Koorie Engagement Support Officer (KESO) Information for Families



The KESO program will provide support in improving your child's educational outcomes. We can support you by:

- Supporting schools/kinder to be more Koorie culturally sensitive.
- Ensuring your child is valued in the classroom.
- Making sure your child's aspirations are realised and supported.
- Supporting increased parent participation in schools/kinder.
- Link with other departments and agencies to strengthen the commitment to Koorie children and young people through learning and development outcomes.



If you would like to speak with a member of the Koorie Engagement Team please contact:

Shonelle Ritchie  
Acting Koorie Education Coordinator  
Koorie Engagement Unit  
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## KESO ROLE

### Engagement

As our title suggests engagement is the key KESO role. We work to facilitate links between centres, families and community. We provide advice on strategies to improve engagement and to facilitate links to community resources.

### Attendance and complex issues

These include non-attendance or behavioural issues affecting Koorie student learning. Our focus is to facilitate links with students, parents and teachers to build working relationships for a collaborative partnership. We also facilitate links to programs and services in the community as needed.

### Access & Participation in Early Years

Increase and enhance the participation of Koorie children in Kindergarten. Promote the values of kindergarten programs within Koorie families and communities. Promote cultural awareness and provide access to resources for all kindergarten programs.

### Community Understanding and Safety Training(CUST)

Includes giving advice to teachers in Early Years centres, primary and secondary schools about strategies to suit the needs of their community. We facilitate links to families to encourage their input and participation, including sharing their culture. It is important to have an appreciation of Cultural differences and similarities. We will assist teachers and schools in building their relationships and developing inclusive curriculum for all children to learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.

### Individual Education Plan (IEP)

Ensuring all students have a Individual Education Plan that is developed between parents, teachers and students. This will support improving educational outcomes for our young people as they take their journey along their learning pathway.

### Koorie Careers Action Plans (KCAP)

The KCAPS should be developed in partnership with the student, parent or caregiver and a KESO. The Koorie Career Action Plan should link with the IEP, which is mandatory for all students.





# STUDENT SUPPORT GROUPS



## *Information for Families*

### **What is Student Support Groups (SSG) at Primary and Secondary Schools?**

The focus of the SSG is on educational planning for your child and monitoring their progress.

It is the responsibility of the principal to set up and run the SSG and make sure all members of the group take part and work together.

### **What are the responsibilities of the Student Support Group?**

In order to achieve these aims it is the responsibility of the SSG to:

- Identify your child's needs
- Determine any adjustments to be made to your child's curriculum
- Plan an appropriate educational program for your child
- Develop an Individual Education Plan (IEP)
- Discuss the plan with your child's teachers and give them support to deliver the learning plan
- Guide the principal around the additional educational needs of your child and the types of resources required to meet these needs
- Review and evaluate your child's program once per term, and at other times if requested by any member of the group

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### **Who are the members of the Student Support Group?**

An SSG consists of:

- You
- A parent/guardian/carer advocate if chosen by you
- The teacher or teachers who have responsibility for your child
- The principal or a nominee (to act as a Chairperson)
- Your child (where appropriate)

The SSG may also invite input from any other person with knowledge of your child or with information relevant to the educational or social needs of your child.

### **What are the aims of the Student Support Group?**

The aims of the SSG are to:

- Make sure that those with the most knowledge of, and responsibility for your child, work together to set shared goals for the your child's educational future
- Plan reasonable changes for your child to access the curriculum
- Support educational planning that is ongoing throughout your child's life
- Monitor the progress of your child

