



# Bicultural Support for Preschools

## What is Bicultural Support?

- An initiative funded by the **NSW Government's Early Childhood Education and Care Directorate**, under the Sector Development Program.

Bicultural Support, a program delivered by Ethnic Community Services Co-operative (ECSC) is now available **FREE** of charge to **Preschool Services across NSW** to assist their inclusion of children from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD), refugee and Aboriginal backgrounds.

- A unique, STATEWIDE, human resource that offers language and cultural assistance to children, families and educators to support inclusive practice in Preschools. Services receive twelve (12) hours of Bicultural Support.
- With over 400 workers representing over 100 different cultural and linguistic backgrounds, including Aboriginal cultures, the program helps promote diversity, inclusion and cultural competence in early childhood settings.

"I would recommend this service to anyone who is struggling with a distraught child from a non-English speaking background. Having a bilingual worker attend allowed the preschool educators to focus on all children in the room and be comfortable that the non-English speaking child was calm, responding and communicating with the bilingual worker. This enabled the child to begin to have a sense of 'belonging' at our preschool. The resources we received also were of great value to my staff."

*Heather, Campbelltown Community Preschool*



Education



Ethnic Community  
Services Co-operative  
*A voice for diversity and inclusion*

This program has been provided by the Department of Education as part of the Early Childhood Education Sector Development Program.

## How can Bicultural Support help your Preschool?

- Would you like assistance communicating with children and families who speak a different language? Or support in settling in children from CALD, Aboriginal and refugee backgrounds?
- Would having someone explain routines in their home language make CALD, Aboriginal and children from refugee backgrounds feel more comfortable and included?
- Would you like help developing and implementing multicultural and diversity activities and inclusive programming?
- Are you interested in introducing diverse cultures and languages into your service?
- Would you and your children like to learn more about Aboriginal culture?
- Are you aware of the diverse resources and professional development opportunities that are available to support inclusive practices in Preschools?

## Bicultural Support Workers

- Are primarily trained and qualified children's services workers.
- Receive ongoing professional development and training in WHS, Child Development, Child Protection, NQF and EYLF, child rearing practices, cultural competence, multicultural programming.
- Hold a current valid Working with Children Check.
- Are employed by ECSC and covered by ECSC's insurance policy when working.

## HOW TO ACCESS BICULTURAL SUPPORT

- For more information and your application form contact Bicultural Support on **02 9569 1288**.
- Our Project Officers are happy to answer all your questions and support you to complete your application.
- But hurry – Bicultural Support will be delivered to Preschools for a limited time only.

"The family who we have been working with are so happy with their son's settling in process that they wanted to take us all out for dinner to show how grateful they are. This child is happy and we have built a real sense of belonging to our kindy. A once frightened little boy is happy to come into the gates of kindy, with a smile."

Brenda, Palm Beach Kindy



## CONTACT US

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