

Who Can Access the PSFO Program?

All children attending Victorian State funded kindergarten programs are eligible for PSFO support.

This is a DET funded service and is FREE.

Teachers are encouraged to work in partnership with families to lodge a referral.

Contact PSFO@yarracity.vic.gov.au to access the referral form.

The referral should be a strength-based document that reflects the concerns of the ECT and the parents.

This discussion can also include the many ways the PSFO program can provide support to the child and early years' service.

The PSFO program works 'With and Through' Early Childhood Teachers. This means the PSFO Program will work directly with the Early Childhood Teacher to build their collective capacity to support inclusion and the child.

Parental consent is required for PSFO support.

Capacity Building Capacity building support for Early Childhood Teachers

Capacity building is an opportunity for our team to work with your team to support inclusion.

This can look like any (or all) of the following:

- Providing Information and resources.
- Contributing to Early Childhood Teacher assessment of child's learning and development needs
- Supporting Early Childhood Teacher's confidence to work with families by working alongside the teacher.
- Coaching Early Childhood Teachers to embed strategies and curriculum adaptations that promote inclusion.
- Building professional partnerships and collaborative relationships with the community.
- Modelling of specific skills, suggestions, and strategies.

- The PSFO Program can make recommendations in relation to referral pathways for the child and the family, training opportunities for the Early Childhood Teacher etc.

Flexible Service Delivery

Service delivery options are flexible and collaborative. This means that it is not a 'one size fits all' approach, therefore addresses the different needs of Early Childhood Teachers.

PSFO support can look like:

- Observations of the child within the kindergarten program. This would also include the Early Childhood Teachers observations of the child.
- Collaborative discussion relating to the strengths and needs of the child within the context of the kindergarten program.
- Discussions to identify the types of support the Early Childhood Teacher is seeking.
- Identifying the referral pathway options
- Providing coaching and mentoring and working alongside the Early Childhood Teacher to build their capacity in the areas that have been identified. E.G curriculum planning, family conversations, networking, supporting referral pathways, supporting KIS applications, implementation of visuals etc.
- Remote service delivery options are available and can be discussed

For further information:

<https://www.vic.gov.au/preschool-field-officer-program>

www.education.vic.gov.au/childhood/professionals/needs/Pages/psfo.aspx

Any questions can be directed to PSFO@yarracity.vic.gov.au