

# Being, Belonging and Becoming: The Early Years Learning Framework

Being, Belonging and Becoming: The Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) in Australia was endorsed by the Council of Australia Governments (COAG) in July 2009. It is the first early years learning framework to be nationally endorsed for use by educators in a range of early childhood settings.

**Belonging** is the basis for living a fulfilling life. Children feel they *belong* because of the relationships they have with their family, community, culture and place

**Being** is about living here and now. Childhood is a special time in life and children need time to just 'be'—time to play, try new things and have fun.

**Becoming** is about the learning and development that young children experience. Children start to form their sense of identity from an early age, which shapes the type of adult they will become

## EYLF Principles

- Principle 1: Secure, respectful and reciprocal relationships
- Principle 2: Partnerships
- Principle 3: High expectations and equity
- Principle 4: Respect for diversity
- Principle 5: Ongoing learning and reflective practice

## EYLF Practice

- Holistic approaches
- Responsiveness to children
- Learning through play
- Intentional teaching
- Learning environments
- Cultural competency
- Continuity of learning and transitions
- Assessment for learning

## EYLF Learning Outcomes

- Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity
- Outcome 2: Children are connected with and contribute to their world
- Outcome 3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
- Outcome 4: Children are confident and involved learners
- Outcome 5: Children are effective communicators

The new National Quality Standard is divided into seven areas that contribute to the quality of early childhood education and care. These areas have been identified by research and are:

1. Educational program and practice
2. Children's health and safety
3. Physical environment
4. Staffing arrangements (including the number of staff looking after children)
5. Relationships with children
6. Collaborative partnerships with families and communities
7. Leadership and service management

The Early Year Learning Framework cover children aged 0- 5 in all settings

The Victorian Early Years Learning Framework is from 0-8 years therefore incorporating the first few years of school