



**fka Children's Services (fkaCS) provides support to education and care services and early childhood professionals on culturally respectful and responsive practice.**

The early years are recognised as the foundation years for children's development. In particular, the first six years are crucial for young children in developing their first language and cultural identity. Secure and trusting relationships between children and early childhood professionals, including those who speak languages other than English, are essential for children to feel valued and accepted in all early childhood settings. Learning English as an additional language requires educators to think about the natural communication needs of children and the stages of second language acquisition.

fkaCS support is directly aligned with the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF), the National Quality Standards and is underpinned by the United Nations Convention of the rights of the child.

We will support you as you develop your cultural competence and an admiration of difference to ensure your pedagogy and practice respects multiple ways of being and understanding and children are supported in learning English as an additional language.

### OUR OFFERINGS

Pedagogy and practice and home language support	Tailored Cultural Inclusion Implementation support	The fkaCS Multicultural Resource Centre (MRC)
Free telephone and electronic support and advice	Community language support	Access to multicultural resources and bilingual books to support literacy, learning and intentional teaching
Online membership resources, guides and fact sheets	Onsite facilitated conversations at team meetings	MRC Outreach Program: delivering books and resources to your service once a term
Cultural inclusion planning: reflecting on the needs of multilingual and newly arrived children and families and building a curriculum that reflects Victoria's diverse community	Onsite customised Professional Learning sessions	Consultation services to set up a centre-based library for children and families and support in using resources and designing spaces that teach
	Onsite coaching and mentoring	
	Regional calendared group training	

Eligible Victorian Kindergartens may have access to School Readiness Funding to cover the cost of support: [www.education.vic.gov.au/childhood/providers/funding/Pages/SRFmenu.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/childhood/providers/funding/Pages/SRFmenu.aspx). Victorian Kindergartens not yet receiving School Readiness Funding should contact fka Children's Services to discuss their support needs. Australian Government approved early years services should contact their regional Inclusion Support team to discuss options: <https://viac.com.au/>.

**Visit [www.fka.org.au](http://www.fka.org.au) for more information, and follow us on Facebook @FKACS!**