

- Information about children’s health – immunisation, any medical needs, illnesses or allergies.
- How parents change children’s nappies.
- How children use the toilet (toilets in early childhood services do not have doors so that educators can supervise children and help them if they need to).
- The foods children eat, meal time customs/routines.
- How children are used to being fed or if they feed themselves.
- Children’s rest/sleeping needs: e.g. songs parents sing, a favourite book, a special toy or blanket and what times children usually rests/sleeps during the day.
- How parents comfort their child.
- How parents support their child’s behaviour e.g. what discipline is used at home.
- What children enjoy playing with.
- Cultural and family traditions and celebrations.

Bringing children’s home language and culture into the early childhood setting

Children’s literacy and numeracy knowledge and skills are supported through educators engaging children in discussion, encouraging children to develop thinking skills through dramatic play, sharing books and reading stories, singing and playing with children. These experiences will also help children learn English.

Parents are encouraged to:

- Read picture books and tell stories in their home language to their child and other children in the service.
- Spend time talking with their child and others who speak the same language.
- Teach the educators songs, rhymes and poems in their language that the educators can then use with all children.
- Bring in music from their culture – recorded music or instruments.
- Bring in items that are special or often used in their culture, such as pictures and artifacts.

