



Using the Multilingual Welcome Poster

fkaCS Pedagogy & Practice Resource Sheet

When children, families, community members and colleagues arrive at an early childhood service, the environment communicates important messages. These messages reflect what and who we value as a learning community. When individuals can see, hear, and feel their identities represented in the environment, a sense of welcome and belonging begins to grow.

The Welcome Poster includes a list of the featured languages on the back. To respond meaningfully to your community, consider which home languages spoken in your setting may not be represented. Think about how these could be added respectfully—perhaps by collaborating with families, community members or colleagues. This intentional approach shows your commitment to equity, multilingualism and affirming each child's identity.

Putting it into practice

Displaying the poster on a wall or door is a good first step—but using it as an active part of your pedagogy takes the impact further. The poster can become a starting point for rich conversations around language, identity, and culture.

You might consider:

- Adding family photographs around the poster linking the family to their home language/s greeting. To do this meaningfully, plan how you'll engage families:
 - Will families bring their own photos, or will you take them at the service?
 - If you do not share a language with the family, how will you communicate? Educators in funded kindergarten and eligible early childhood support services can access free on-site, telephone or video interpreters via All Graduates Interpreting and Translating Services, provided by the [Victorian Department of Education](#)
- How will you learn and use each greeting? Will you:
 - Ask families to help you with pronunciation?
 - Create a written transliteration?
 - Request permission to make an audio recording to support your learning?
 - Commit to practicing and using the greeting regularly?
- Once you learn and are using the greetings of your learning community you might consider developing a service specific 'Welcome Song' with children to sing at the beginning of your session.

To further discuss using the Multilingual Welcome Poster, or for support in engaging actively with multilingual families, contact *fka* Children's Services: 03 9428 4471 | fkacs@fka.org.au | www.fka.org.au