



EVIDENCE
FOR LEARNING

Helping great practice become common practice in education

Educators face many challenges when making decisions about the best approaches to adopt for children in their care. Education research can be confusing and complex. Sometimes it is contradictory. And all too often it is not written for practicing educators.



Evidence for Learning is dedicated to helping busy educators increase learning for children, by improving the quality, availability and use of evidence.

Our vision is an Australia where evidence-informed approaches increase learning, so that all children, regardless of background, make the best possible progress.

We are a not-for-profit organisation that is 100% independent, working with education systems, early childhood education and care providers, schools, researchers, government and philanthropists. We operate nationally across all jurisdictions and sectors of education in Australia.

What we do

Evidence for Learning operates as a broker between education research, policy and practice. We build, share and encourage the use of evidence to support educators' decision-making and promote evidence-informed practice.



Build evidence

by evaluating the benefits of different approaches in Australian education through research and trials



Share evidence

of global research through plain English summaries of education approaches



Use evidence

through practical support helping educators understand and implement what works well

Our track record

Incubated by Social Ventures Australia (SVA), Evidence for Learning has operated since 2016 through a partnership with the UK's Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) and \$6m in seed funding from Commbank.



190+

We are building new evidence on Australian education approaches

with three randomised controlled trials in literacy and numeracy programs and one pilot study on health and well-being completed, involving more than 190 schools and 7,454 students.



11,500+

We've been sharing the Teaching & Learning Toolkit

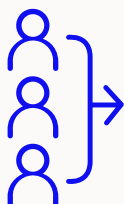
with educators across Australia. More than 11,500 educators now access the Evidence for Learning website four or more times in a year.



We're partnering with the education sector to better understand how evidence is used by schools and we're building free and accessible resources, such as our guidance reports, to help educators implement with impact.



We've delivered more than 170 workshops, webinars and presentations to over 8,000 educators nationally.



We've formed four eminent governance and advisory bodies who provide guidance to our overall direction. Our Early Childhood Education Expert Reference Council is chaired by Professor Karen Thorpe, the Deputy Director and Group Leader in Early Development, Education and Care at the Institute for Social Science Research at the University of Queensland. Members of our other bodies comprise a diverse range of leading figures from education, academic research, government and business including Professor John Hattie, Chair of the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) and Penny Dakin, CEO of the Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY).

Better evidence for early childhood education

In 2019, Evidence for Learning expanded its work into early childhood education. Investment in early childhood education provides a strong return for our country. A recent study shows for every dollar invested into quality early childhood education, Australia receives \$2 back over a child's life.¹

We have an opportunity to increase the benefits of early childhood education by helping great practice become common practice across the system. Building rigorous and relevant research on early learning approaches increases the body of knowledge educators can draw

on in making their decisions. Ensuring this evidence gets into the hands of educators across the system helps all children to make the best progress possible.




Our early childhood education work is national but with a specific focus on Queensland. It is made possible by the generous support of The Bryan Foundation.



Our current work in early childhood education includes:

Building evidence by commissioning one to two independent research projects on promising programs and practices in early childhood education and the transition to primary school. One of these research projects will be conducted in partnership with the Queensland Department of Education. All findings will be publicly reported in plain English.

Sharing evidence with a free, online accessible summary of global education research via the Early Childhood Education Toolkit (ECE Toolkit). The ECE Toolkit is designed to support educators who are making decisions about how to improve outcomes for children. The ECE Toolkit summarises 12 approaches in terms of the:

-  average months' worth of learning progress;
-  cost to implement
-  the security of evidence.

The ECE Toolkit includes summaries of Australasian early childhood education research developed by the Telethon Kids Institute.

Encouraging the use of evidence with support to help early childhood educators put evidence to work, such as 'tailored' ECE Toolkits for providers and other organisations, and workshops to support evidence-informed practice. In 2019, Evidence for Learning released an evidence-based resource on how to support young children's oral language development created in partnership with the University of Queensland. In 2020, Evidence for Learning will release additional evidence-based resources on topics of key interest to early childhood educators.

1 PWC (2019). A Smart Investment for a Smarter Australia: Economic analysis of universal early childhood education in the year before school in Australia. Melbourne: The Front Project

Working with you

We welcome suggestions for ways we can work with early childhood education providers and supporting organisations. For more information visit evidenceforlearning.org.au or contact:



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