What is KidsMatter Early Childhood?
KidsMatter Early Childhood is an Australian mental health promotion, prevention and early intervention initiative for early childhood education and care (ECEC) services. It involves the people who can make a difference to children’s lives—parents, carers, families, and early childhood staff, along with a range of community and health professionals—working together to support children’s mental health. KidsMatter Early Childhood has four Components through which ECEC services can strengthen the protective factors and minimise the risk factors for children’s mental health. There are a series of KidsMatter family resources available to you that provide information on how we and your family can work together to foster your child’s mental health and wellbeing. These resources and further information and updates on the initiative can be found in the ‘Family’ section of the KidsMatter Early Childhood website: www.kidsmatter.edu.au.

Component 1: Creating a sense of community
‘Creating a sense of community’, the first KidsMatter Early Childhood Component, is fundamental to children’s mental health, which affects their ability to learn. The KidsMatter Early Childhood Component 1 family resources provide information about how we can work together to optimise the sense of community at our ECEC service.

Why are you being asked to complete this survey?
KidsMatter Early Childhood involves us as an ECEC service reflecting on our current practice, identifying areas for development and working towards improving the services that we offer to our families for the benefit of children’s mental health and wellbeing. Your family’s views are an important part of the KidsMatter Early Childhood planning process. Completing the survey is optional. However, we hope that you will contribute to helping us improve how we create a sense of community. Please feel free to discuss any concerns you may have about completing this survey with any of the staff.

Who will see and use the information you provide by completing this survey?
Surveys will be collated at the ECEC service for our use only. All information you provide in this survey will be treated in confidence and not identified individually. Surveys are anonymous and we will summarise group responses to guide planning. Responses to this survey will help us to identify our strengths and areas for improvement with respect to creating a sense of community. You can discuss any concerns that may arise from completing the survey with staff should you wish to do so.
Family Survey instructions

Completing this survey should take around five minutes. We really appreciate your comments and feedback about how you feel our early childhood education and care service is doing at creating a sense of community and we value any suggestions you can make.

For questions 1–5, please circle one response that first comes to mind and best fits how you feel about each statement.

For question 6, please feel free to tell us what you think on the lines provided.

1. The community at our ECEC service promotes the mental health and wellbeing of our child.


2. Our ECEC service is friendly and welcoming to children, families and visitors.


3. Communications and activities are inclusive and accessible to children and families.


4. Staff take the time to build caring and supportive relationships with our family.


5. We are encouraged to suggest ideas and contribute to the way our ECEC service operates.


6. Is there anything that you would like to see the ECEC service doing more of, or differently, with respect to creating a sense of community?