Collating survey results

The KidsMatter family and staff surveys have been developed to help ECEC services identify what they are already doing well and areas that need further development for each Component.

Leadership Teams can use survey information to make goals and identify priorities during the Plan phase of implementing KidsMatter. For more details about the benefits of using surveys, have a look at our last post, ‘Using community surveys’.

Family and staff surveys and Collation Tools have been prepared for each Component of KidsMatter (all area available on the KidsMatter Early Childhood in practice page). This post focuses on collating family and staff surveys for Component 1: Creating a sense of community.

Collating surveys and producing Component profiles

A Collation Tool has been developed to help you use the surveys. This contains detailed instructions on how to enter survey responses and has been developed to automatically produce profiles for each Target Area in each component of KidsMatter Early Childhood.

The Collation Tool for Component 1 shows how well families and staff think your ECEC service is doing at creating a community that supports mental health and wellbeing and at supporting relationships, belonging and inclusion. The Collation Tool will provide an overall Component profile as well as a profile for each Target Area.

This information and instructions can also be used to analyse the collated information in your survey spreadsheets for Components 2, 3, and 4.

Incorporating Component profiles into planning

Areas of strength

The first step to using the Component profiles in the planning process is to identify and celebrate the areas where your ECEC service is already doing well.

Have a look at the graphs in the Target Area profiles. These are the ones that show you have higher average responses from family or staff. Congratulations on these strengths!

If the Target Area profiles suggest your ECEC service has strengths in multiple areas, your Leadership Team might focus on planning to maintain what you're currently doing well. It might also be a good opportunity to try something new in conjunction with what's already working well in your ECEC service.

Areas for improvement

The second step to incorporating this information into the planning process is to identify those areas where further development might be useful. A good way to do this is to look for the graphs in the Target Area profiles that show lower family or staff averages. Once you've identified these areas, you can work out what your ECEC service wants to focus on first. Then you can brainstorm strategies to develop these areas further.
During the planning process, **don't worry if your Leadership Team identifies more than one area for further development.** This is especially common when services first start KidsMatter Early Childhood and it's actually a positive part of the process.

**Address different areas over time**

Don't feel that you have to tackle everything at once. Leadership Teams can address different areas for improvement in the next round of implementing KidsMatter. The framework has been designed to help ECEC services engage in a continual cycle of development, so it's fine to prioritize one or two things and come back to the others in subsequent cycles.

Also, a lot of the Target Areas in the four Components of KidsMatter are related, so it is possible that development in one area could contribute to change in another area.

Once strengths and areas for development have been identified, the Leadership Team can go onto developing an action plan for their ECEC service. We'll be posting more about this process soon (keep an eye out for Unpacking the "Plan Do Review" Process, Part I: "Plan").

### Reflective Questions
- What are the areas where your ECEC service is already doing well? What kind of strategies could you develop to maintain these strengths?
- What are the areas in your ECEC service that could be developed further?
- Of the areas that could be developed further, what would your ECEC service like to focus on first?
- What surprised you in the survey results? Did you learn something new about your ECEC community that is important to share with the rest of your team?
- How will you go about providing feedback to families and staff about the Component profiles and what you are planning to do next?

### Is there anything you need from your Facilitator?

You can call, email or arrange a video conference with your Facilitator, or get in touch on our Facebook page.

### More Information

How is KidsMatter Early Childhood implemented?