Module 1
Introduction to KidsMatter
Early Childhood Component 2
Professional Learning

What will participants learn from this module?

When you have completed this module, participants will:

▪ understand how to use the online learning module
▪ be introduced to concepts related to Component 2
▪ refresh their knowledge of Component 1, celebrate successes and commit to continuing to review Component 1 strategies.

Connections to the Early Years Learning Framework and National Quality Standard

The NQS is a key aspect of the National Quality Framework and is divided into seven Quality Areas that services are assessed against by their state or territory regulatory authority. The NQS is linked to national learning frameworks including the EYLF, which identifies five learning outcomes to guide educators when planning for and with children.

This KidsMatter Early Childhood Professional Learning supports early childhood education and care services to meet the requirements of the NQS. Concepts, processes and learning from this Professional Learning can directly assist educators to further their engagement with the NQS and EYLF while enhancing the mental health and wellbeing of children.

In addition, engagement in this Professional Learning provides an opportunity for educators to ‘affirm, challenge, support and learn from each other’ (NQS Element 4.2.2) to assess their individual and collective strengths and needs, and plan for improvement (NQS Element 7.2.3).

Preparation for this session

You will need:

▪ Component 2: Professional Learning Participant Workbook
▪ Video 1.1: How to prepare for KidsMatter Component 2 Professional Learning
▪ Video 1.2: Introduction to Component 2
Suggestions for how to run this module

1  Introduce the module to the group

Module 1 focuses on how to use the online learning resource, including an outline of the Professional Learning and instructions on how it can be applied to suit the needs of your service.

Content includes:
- a video that provides information about the Professional Learning and the role of the Leadership Team and Facilitators
- a discussion about how your team will work through this Professional Learning
- a video that provides an outline of Component 2 and how this supports mental health in early childhood
- a reflection on participation in Component 1
- identification of personal goals for Component 2.

2  Video 1.1: How to prepare for KidsMatter Component 2 Professional Learning

Time: 5 mins 39 secs

This video covers:
- an introduction to the session
- an overview of the resources and information participants will need to complete KidsMatter Component 2 Professional Learning.

Tips for watching this video
- There is space for participants to make notes about this video in their Participant Workbook on page 11.
- After the video you will think about how you can participate in this Professional Learning.
3 Discussion: Putting KidsMatter into practice

This aim of this activity is for participants to plan how they will make KidsMatter Professional Learning part of their practice.

Instructions
Facilitate a discussion using the following discussion points:

1. How can our team work together through this Professional Learning? This discussion should focus on practical ideas such as scheduling team meetings or allocating longer meetings.

2. What questions do I have about this Professional Learning? Who can help answer my questions? (e.g., Leadership Team or Facilitator, manager of the service or broader organisation)

3. What do we want to tell families about our participation in KidsMatter Component 2?

Tips for this discussion
- It may be helpful to break into smaller groups initially before discussing as a whole group.
- Group agreement can assist engagement with this Professional Learning.
- There is space for participants to write notes on page 12 of the Participant Workbook.

4 Video 1.2: Introduction to Component 2

Time: 7 mins

This video covers:
- an overview of where Component 2 fits within the KidsMatter framework
- an outline of the Professional Learning and the content of each of the modules.

Tips for watching this video
- There is space for participants to make notes about the video on page 13 of the Participant Workbook.
- Following this video you will think about applying your learning from Component 1 to Component 2.
5 Discussion: Preparing for Component 2 Professional Learning

The aim of this discussion is for educators to celebrate their achievements in Component 1 and consider how they can use these achievements to guide them through Component 2 Professional Learning.

Instructions
Facilitate a discussion using the following discussion points:

1. What have we learned throughout Component 1?
2. What did we achieve in Component 1? What changes did we notice or make to our practice?
3. How can we apply what we have learned in Component 1 Professional Learning to Component 2?

Tip for this discussion
- There is space for participants to make notes about the discussion on page 14 of the Participant Workbook.

6 Activity: Moving forward

The aim of this activity is to identify personal and service goals to begin preparing for Component 2 Professional Learning.

Instructions

1. Ask participants to answer the following question individually:
   - What is one thing I could do to prepare for Component 2 Professional Learning over the next week?

2. Ask participants to answer the following question as a large group or in smaller groups if there are a lot of people:
   - What can we do as a service to prepare for Component 2 Professional Learning over the next week?

3. Come back to the group and share ideas about how your service can prepare and agree on areas the team will work towards.

Tip for this activity
- There is a worksheet for this activity in the Participant Workbook on page 15.
7 Introduce and discuss reflections

Reflecting on new content is a good way to wrap up each module and summarise what has been covered. The following questions can support reflection, although you may wish to add your own questions to suit your team. Reflective questions can be considered during the module, at the end of the module or at a separate time. Reflective questions can be completed individually, in pairs or as a group.

More information on using reflective questions can be found at the beginning of this manual on page 5.

▪ What am I hoping to learn throughout this Professional Learning?
▪ What would help me make the most of this Professional Learning?

Tip for this reflection
▪ Reflective questions can be found in the Participant Workbook on page 16.

8 Making a difference

This section provides an opportunity for participants to connect learning from this module with their daily practice outside of the Professional Learning. Participants are asked to engage with the content between modules through reflection, observation or action. There will be an opportunity to discuss experiences at the start of the following module.

More information can be found at the beginning of this manual on page 6.

Participants are encouraged to work towards putting in place the personal goals they set for themselves in ‘Moving forward’.

Invite participants to share their thoughts at the next Professional Learning session if they feel comfortable.

Tip
▪ Remind participants that ‘Moving forward’ can be found in the Participant Workbook on page 15.
9 Note the readings in You might also be interested in...


10 Planning your next Professional Learning module

Module 2: Social and emotional learning in early childhood is scheduled for:

**Date:**

**Time:**

**Venue:**
Plan for Module 1: Introduction to KidsMatter Early Childhood Component 2 Professional Learning

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