

Name:

Service:

Date:



Professional learning: Creating a sense of community
Topic 4: Inclusion

Participant Workbook



Acknowledgement:

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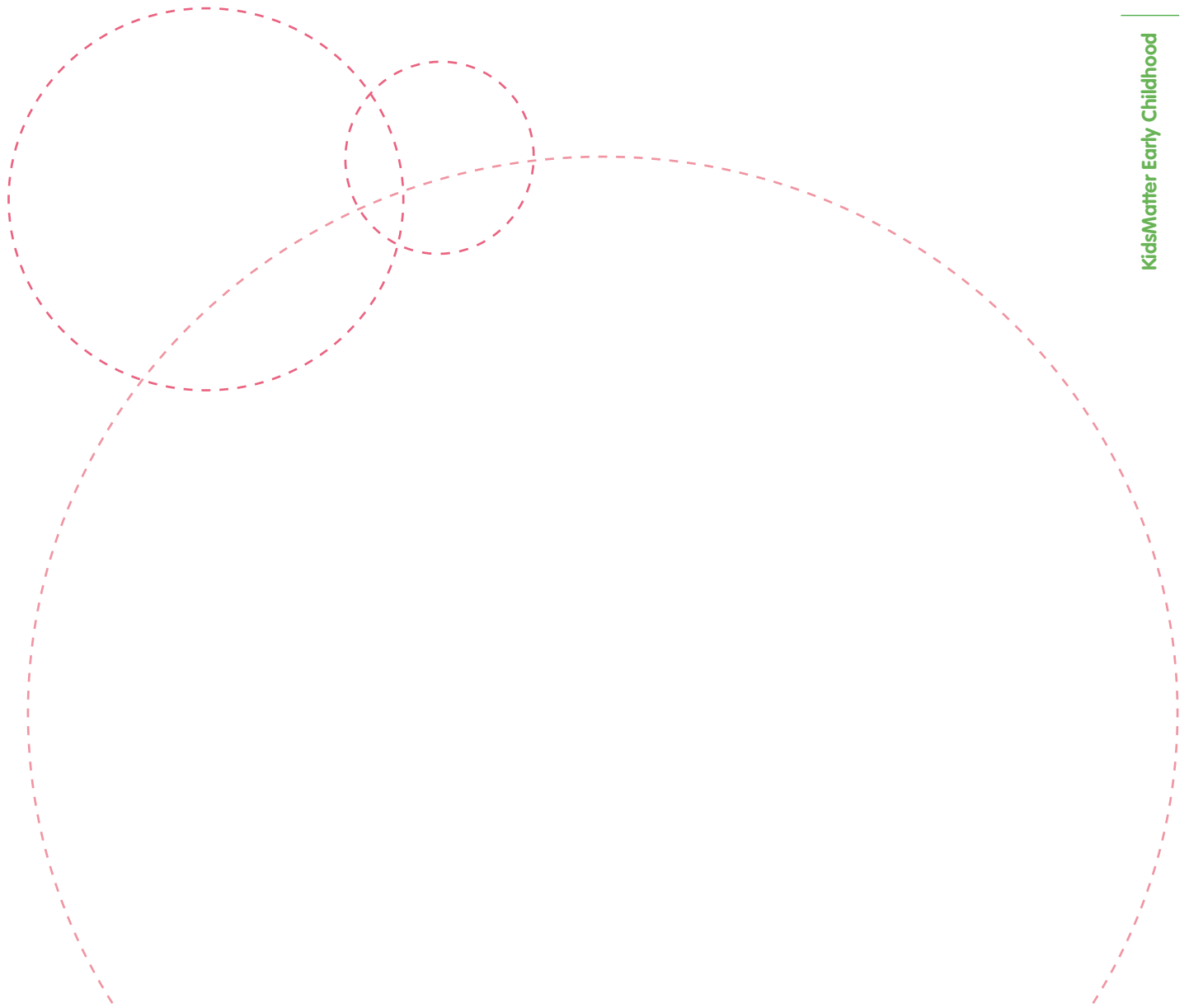
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Inclusion

An inclusive service promotes understanding and respect by welcoming children, families, and staff from diverse backgrounds. This can include diverse cultures, family structures, abilities, playing and learning styles. An appreciation of the diversity that makes up the early childhood service enables families and staff to work well together, which has a positive impact on children's mental health and wellbeing.

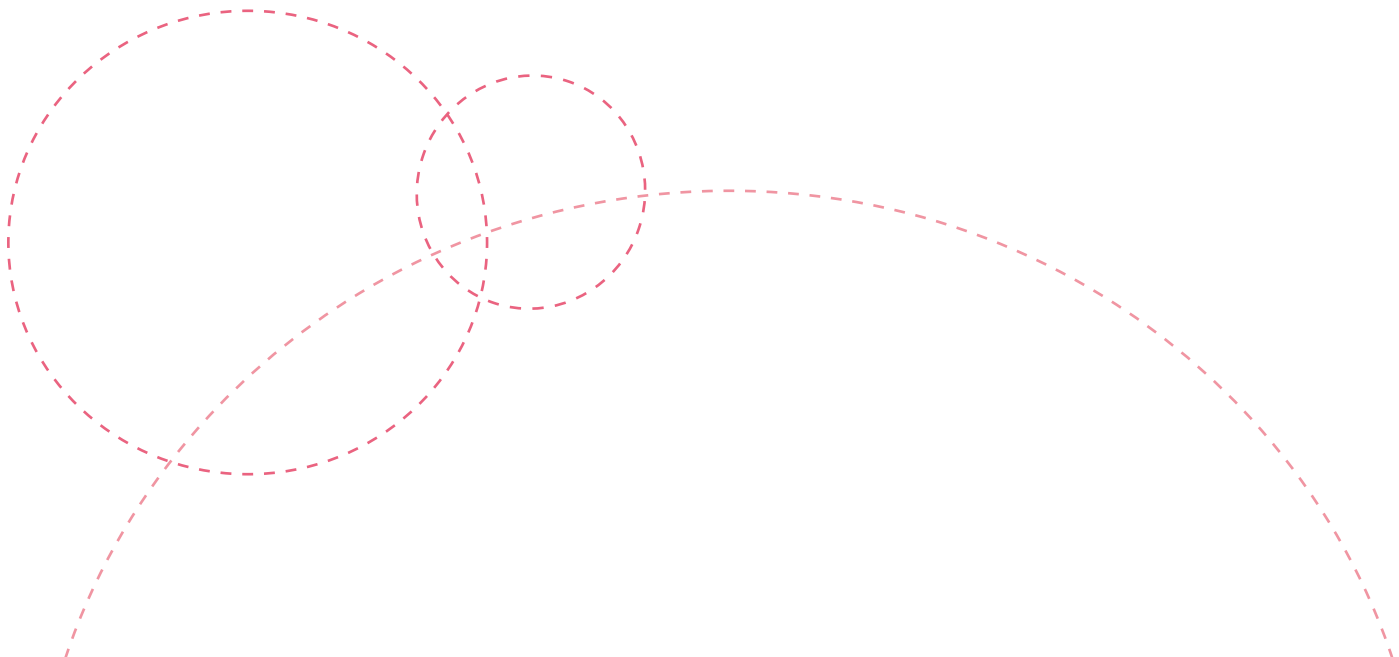




Video 4.1

Inclusion

An inclusive service promotes understanding and respect by welcoming children, families, and staff from diverse backgrounds. Inclusive practices in early childhood settings support children’s mental health and wellbeing. Record any observations or questions you may have in the space below.

A large white rectangular area intended for taking notes or recording observations and questions.



Discussion

What does inclusion look like in practice?

| Messages about inclusion can be transmitted in a variety of ways to all the members of the service community. | |
|---|---|
| Policies and procedures | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Philosophy ▪ Planning processes ▪ Curriculum framework ▪ |
| The physical environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Signs ▪ Symbols ▪ ▪ |
| Relationships | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Knowing each other ▪ Acceptance of difference ▪ ▪ |
| Day to day experiences | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Opportunities for play ▪ ▪ ▪ |
| Communication methods | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Body language ▪ Written communication ▪ ▪ |
| Social inclusion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Partnerships in the community ▪ ▪ ▪ |
| Other | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ▪ ▪ ▪ |

Each of these areas should be taken into consideration when thinking about inclusion

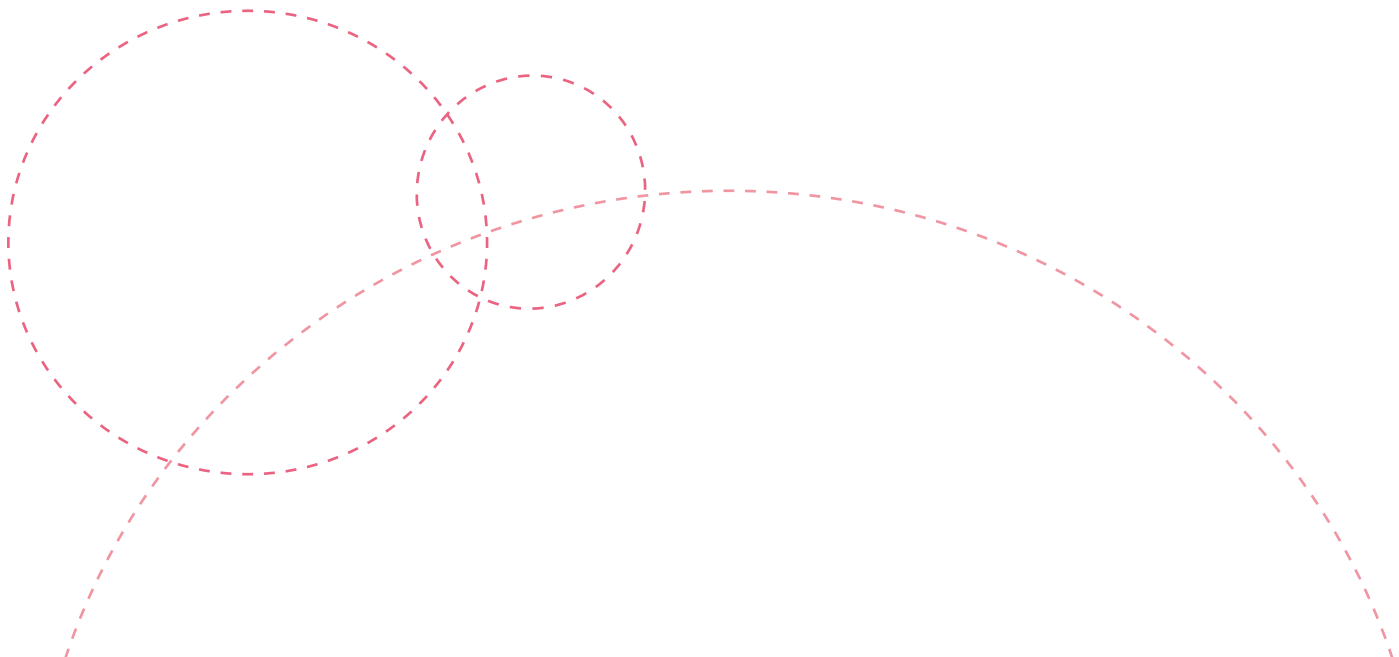




Video 4.2

Diversity

Diversity comes in many forms, including culture, family arrangements and circumstances, abilities and social economic circumstances. Inclusive practice involves understanding, respecting, celebrating and honouring differences. Record any observations or questions you may have in the space below.

A large, empty rectangular box with a light gray border, intended for recording observations or questions. A faint, gray clapperboard icon is visible in the bottom right corner of this box.



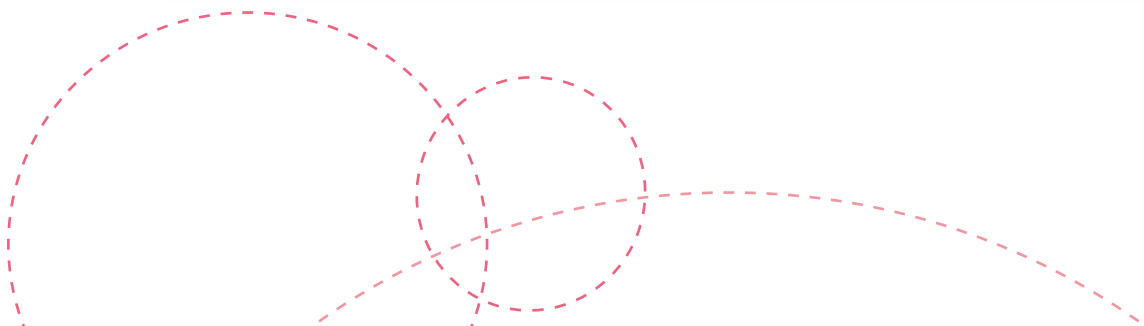
Activity

The 'ideal' inclusive service

The aim of this activity is for staff to think further about ways in which they are already inclusive and identify some practical ways in which they can also improve.

A non-inclusive service

The 'ideal' inclusive service





Activity

Moving forward

This activity has been designed for you to take away and do before you move on to the next topic. It will help integrate what you have learned during this session.

What is one thing I could do to promote inclusion with children and families?

Over the next week?

Over the next 12 months?

What is one thing we could do as a service to build upon and develop new inclusive practices with children and families?

Over the next week?

Over the next 12 months?





Reflective questions

How do you honour and celebrate diversity within your early childhood community?

How do you actively seek out information about the diversity in children and families at your service? When does this occur?

Think about a new family who has started at your service. How might you help them to feel included?

Wrapping up

Congratulations on completing Topic 4 of KidsMatter Component 1 Professional learning. For further information and resources about KidsMatter Early Childhood, please visit: www.kidsmatter.edu.au/ec.



Australian Government
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