



# Information Sheet

## Early Years Network start up

What makes an Early Years Network successful?

- The needs of children and families are at the core of the work being done
- There is active engagement and participation of local families and community members, alongside government and non-government service providers
- Members are committed to a set of shared principles and behaviours with shared language and understanding
- Collaborative practice, including cooperation, partnership, networking and collective decision making are central
- The focus is on local, place-based initiatives that identify and use local assets and capacities and reflect local child development needs, strengths, resources and opportunities

An effective Early Years Network will:

- know what it wants to achieve
- meet for purpose
- establish and maintain sound governance
- share roles and responsibilities
- have a current Terms of Reference
- be strategic and identify priorities
- develop an Action Plan and record outcomes
- value culture and diversity
- profile itself in the community
- work collaboratively

### How can we achieve this?

- Consult and plan with a broad group of children, families and community services as part of establishing a new Early Years Network
- Develop a Terms of Reference and Action Plan that reflect the local priorities, using the templates provided
- Structure meetings according to the Terms of Reference and Action Plan with a focus on the purpose of the Network
- Base planning on evidence and data, alongside community consultation
- Create a diverse membership by actively seeking out a range of members
- Set clear expectations for collaboration

## More information

To find out more about Early Years Networks, please visit our website or contact:

- **Web:** [www.communities.wa.gov.au](http://www.communities.wa.gov.au)
- **Email:** [EY@communities.wa.gov.au](mailto:EY@communities.wa.gov.au)
- **Phone:** 0478 962 339 or 0481 061 924

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