



Australian Parents Council Inc

Indigenous Parent Factor: Successful early learning at home and school

Background

The Australian Parents Council (APC) has been conducting *The Indigenous Parent Factor; Successful Early Learning at Home and School (IPF)* since 2004. The project was developed for use with Indigenous families by APC in collaboration with individuals and educators from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and non-Indigenous educators working with Indigenous children and families.

APC is the national organisation representing parents of students attending non-government schools. The IPF engages parents and carers of prospective and current students in government and non-government schools and has been delivered in remote, rural and urban Indigenous communities.

The essential feature of IPF is the conduct of three-day workshops which are primarily aimed at engaging Indigenous parents and carers in the early learning experiences of children before formal schooling begins and continuing into the early years of compulsory education (0-8 years). As well, the workshops incorporate a 'train the trainer' component to facilitate the continuance of IPF workshops in communities after the initial training and workshops have taken place.

One of the recent key developments of IPF is the underpinning of the project with a nationally accredited training qualification at Certificate III level or above for the Indigenous operatives.