Indigenous Parent Factor: Successful early learning at home and school

Relevance to COAG Policy Priorities

The objectives of the IPF are directly in keeping with and support the achievement of the COAG targets for Indigenous Reform as set out in the communiqué issued following the COAG meeting of 29 November, 2008. Specifically, the particularly relevant targets are “to ensure that all Indigenous four year olds in remote communities have access to early childhood education within five years” and “to halve the gap in reading, writing and numeracy achievements for Indigenous children within a decade.”

The COAG Productivity Agenda Working Group (PAWG) has prescribed “Parent and family support and encouragement” as a priority reform area across all the targets it has set in seeking to meet COAG’s objective ‘to close the gap in Indigenous life outcomes in early childhood’. The IPF has demonstrated its capacity to make a significant contribution to the achievement of the following PAWG key performance indicators:

- Increase access to and use of culturally competent universal early childhood care and education services
- Increase levels of family literacy and numeracy
- Develop a culturally competent Indigenous and non-Indigenous workforce to support all COAG Reform Options
- Ensure all services are delivered in an integrated, culturally competent way
- Foster family participation in children’s early learning and development