



Australian Parents Council Inc

Indigenous Parent Factor: Successful early learning at home and school

Relevance to MCEECDYA Policy Priorities

The Melbourne Declaration on the Educational Goals for Young Australians states that improving educational outcomes for Indigenous Australians must be a key priority over the next decade. To this end, the Declaration recognises the need for partnerships with local communities, parents, carers and families as the first and most important influence in a child's life and the imperative to strengthen early childhood education, especially and including the years before school.

As set out under Goal 1 of the Declaration, all Australian governments and all school sectors must “ensure that schools build on local cultural knowledge and experience of Indigenous students as a foundation for learning, and work in partnership with local communities on all aspects of the schooling process, including to promote high expectations for the learning outcomes of Indigenous students.”

The IPF, with its focus on empowering the parents and carers of young Indigenous children, is a proven and successful example where such partnerships have been forged.