



An education family conference recognises your child and family as unique.

The meeting supports a deeper level of understanding and a safe space to hold difficult conversations.

WHAT ARE PEOPLE SAYING ABOUT EDUCATION FAMILY CONFERENCES?

"Getting the family - my mob - together, everyone having a yarn, it made a real difference."

"I wasn't judged. Everyone was respectful and it was fair."

"The independent coordinator was great, she respected my family ... our culture."

Email or call:

If you need more information, you can:

WATCH A VIDEO:



Scan the QR code to watch a video on what an education family conference is like.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:



Scan the QR code to visit our website.

education.sa.gov.au/EFC

EDUCATION FAMILY CONFERENCES

Information for Aboriginal families

"What did you think of the family conference?"

"I told my story, and they listened."

"Yarning with my mob made a difference."

"Deadly."



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

WHAT IS AN EDUCATION FAMILY CONFERENCE?

This meeting brings everyone together to yarn and make a plan. The plan supports your child's attendance and helps them feel safe and supported.

It recognises your family's culture and builds on your family's strengths.

Decisions are made by your family with support from others at the meeting.

Participating in the education family conference is voluntary. This means it is your choice if you want to take part.

WHO PLANS THE MEETING?

A coordinator will plan the meeting.

- They are not from the Department for Education.
- They are neutral and independent.
- They recognise your connection to culture and will ensure cultural safety.
- If there is an Aboriginal staff member available, they will ask you if you would like them to coordinate these meetings.

THE MEETING BRINGS TOGETHER



WHAT DOES THE MEETING LOOK LIKE?

- The education family conference can be held anywhere except a family home.
- Possible locations include a local community centre, library or cultural centre.

THE MEETING HAS 3 STAGES:

SHARING THE STORY

- Everyone has a chance to have a yarn and share what is working well and what the challenges are.
- Everyone shares what supports they can offer.

FAMILY TIME

- This is a private space for your family and supports to have a yarn and decide what goes into the plan.

MOVING FORWARD – AGREEING TO THE PLAN

- Everyone returns to the meeting.
- The plan is shared.
- You have another yarn about the plan.
- Everyone agrees and gets a signed copy of the plan.



SUPPORT FOR YOUR CHILD

- Your child will also have a support person at the meeting called an advocate.
- They will meet with your child before the meeting.
- Their role is to understand the world from your child's perspective.
- They will support your child to be involved in the meeting and express what matters to them or speak on their behalf.
- They could be a trained Aboriginal advocate or someone known to your child.

SUPPORT FOR YOUR FAMILY

Your family will have a support worker from the Department for Education. This could be an Aboriginal Education worker or a social worker. They will help you to put your plan into action.

COMING BACK TOGETHER

After everyone has had time to work on the plan, we all meet again to yarn about:

- how things have been going
- what went well
- if there are still any challenges
- if other supports are needed.

Sometimes a new plan or changes to the plan are made.