

Education family conferences

Information for families



Support for children who do not attend school regularly

We know it can be hard getting your child to school sometimes. An education family conference can help.

What is an education family conference?

It is a family-led planning meeting. It is all about helping build on your family's strengths. The meeting supports your family to come up with your plan to get your child to school more. It is voluntary.

The meeting is led by an independent coordinator. **These people are trained to:**

- support families through the process
- remain impartial

Coordinators are not part of the Department for Education. Their job is to organise and lead the meeting. They do not make any decisions.

Who is at the meeting?



Before the meeting, the coordinator will ask **who else you want at the meeting**. This could include:

- other family members
- extended family and kin
- a support person
- a community elder
- a service provider you already work with.

Support for your child

Your child will also have a child advocate at the meeting. This person helps your child to be involved and have their say about what matters to them.

What happens at the meeting?



Information sharing

- Everyone introduces themselves.
- The group talks about your child's attendance, including what works well and what gets in the way of them getting to school.
- Your family's and your child's strengths are discussed.
- Everyone talks about how they can support you and your child.



Family time

- Your family will then have time to talk privately together.
- You can think about the offers of support.
- You plan what you think will help to get your child to school.



Agreeing to the plan

- Everyone then comes back together.
- The family or coordinator share the plan with the group.
- Together, the group talks about and agrees to the plan.
- The coordinator writes up the final plan.



Everyone gets a signed copy of the plan

Review meeting

This is a chance for everyone to get back together to talk about how your child is going at school, progress of the plan and talk about other help if needed.

Scan the QR code to view a video and find out more.



For more information

- ✉ education.educationfamilyconferences@sa.gov.au
- 💻 education.sa.gov.au/EFC



Government of South Australia
Department for Education