

National Applied Trial 2025

Plain language statement for teachers and educators

Your centre has agreed to participate in the National Applied Trial of the Preschool Outcomes Measure, and we invite you to assist in the implementation of this program.

The trial provides preschools with an opportunity to use a prototype of the Preschool Outcomes Measure tool and share valuable feedback based on their experience.

What is the Preschool Outcomes Measure?

The Preschool Outcomes Measure is a formative assessment tool designed to help teachers and educators gain a deeper understanding of children's learning progress in the year before full-time school.

The tool is designed to seamlessly integrate into play-based learning environments and align with the Early Years Learning Framework or other equivalent frameworks. It supports teachers and educators to make informed planning and teaching decisions and tailor learning experiences to each child's development.

The Preschool Outcomes Measure is an initiative of the Australian and state and territory governments. It is being developed by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) in partnership with Goodstart Early Learning and Ninti One.

How to participate in the program

Your centre principal or director has registered to participate and received access to the prototype of the Preschool Outcomes Measure. You have been invited, via this Plain Language Statement, to implement the tool to children. If you agree to participate, the principal or director will upload you into the platform. If you do not wish to participate, you only need to inform your principal or director of the fact and you will not then participate.

Benefits of getting involved

- The opportunity to shape how the Preschool Outcomes Measure is designed and implemented
- Engagement with innovative early childhood formative assessment and teaching strategies
- Access to specialised professional development
- Ongoing support throughout the trial

The more teachers, educators and children who participate in the National Applied Trial, the better the preschool outcomes will be for everyone.

You are free to withdraw your consent at any time during the project and any identifiable information collected from you, for example, contact information will be destroyed, via a 'submit a request' contact form (<https://preschoolsupport.acer.org/hc/en-au/requests/new>).

Timeline

April–May

Expressions of interest open

June

Professional development begins for participating teachers and educators

June–September

Preschools trial the prototype Preschool Outcomes Measure

What you will do during the trial

Preschools will receive access to a prototype of the Preschool Outcomes Measure to use and explore with children. This will involve collecting evidence through observation and reflection. Participating teachers and educators will have the chance to offer feedback about their experience or make suggestions for improvement.

Professional development

Before using the tool, teachers and educators will be invited to attend a professional development workshop at a suitable time. They will also be given access to a range of additional professional development resources, including online and self-paced, to suit different levels of experience and availability.

Flexible participation

Teachers and educators will be able to trial the tool with as many or as few children as they choose, and the assessments will contain options to integrate into their practice in a way that works best for them.

If needed, your preschool can withdraw from the trial at any point. Children can also choose to opt out of specific assessment tasks or out of the trial process.

More information

If you require any further information about the trial, contact ACER at preschool.support@acer.org.

Trial ethics and research approval

All data gathered during the trial will remain confidential and be used only for research and development purposes. It will not be used to compare or rank preschools, teachers, educators or children.

ACER's Human Research Ethics Committee has approved this work (reference HREC-0273). If you have any questions about this process, contact ACER at 03 9277 5475 or hrec@acer.org.