



Preschool Outcomes Measure National Tool Pilot

Plain Language Statement for Principals or Directors

Expressions of interest are open for preschools to participate in the Pilot of the Preschool Outcomes Measure National Tool.

The pilot provides preschools with a chance to use an updated version of the Preschool Outcomes Measure National Tool and share valuable feedback.

What is the Preschool Outcomes Measure National Tool?

The Preschool Outcomes Measure National Tool is a formative assessment designed to help teachers and educators understand children's learning progress in oral language and literacy and executive function in the year before full-time school.

The formative assessment is designed to integrate into play-based learning environments and aligns with the Early Years Learning Framework and state-approved equivalents. It supports teachers and educators to make informed planning and teaching decisions and tailor learning experiences to each child's current learning. The Preschool Outcomes Measure National Tool can be used with children of all cultural backgrounds and abilities, including children with disability or developmental concerns, children who speak a home language other than English, and children who speak Aboriginal English.

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

What are the benefits of getting involved?

Benefits for teachers and educators may include:

- the opportunity to shape the ongoing refinement of the Preschool Outcomes Measure National Tool
- engagement with innovative early childhood formative assessment and professional learning resources
- enhanced insights into children's strengths and learning progress, to support planning and high-quality practice
- access to specialised professional learning experiences and materials
- ongoing support throughout the pilot

The more services who participate in the pilot, the better the Preschool Outcomes Measure National Tool will be for everyone.

How to express interest

Go to your state or territory to find out how to express interest in being part of the national pilot and find out if your preschool service or school is eligible to apply for any related funding.



What will you do in the pilot?

Principals or Directors (or your nominated Site Leader for the pilot) will receive access to the Preschool Outcomes Measure National Tool through a digital platform. You will be able to add access for teachers and educators, who can add a list of children to be assessed.

Teachers and educators can use the formative assessment to engage children in familiar and game-like assessment experiences and record observations and reflections about how children demonstrate their oral language and literacy and executive function capabilities. Teachers and educators will use a tablet device to record their observations and reflections, and for some assessment experiences, they will support children to interact directly with a tablet device.

Participating teachers and educators will be asked to give feedback about their experience and make suggestions for improvement. Site Leaders, teachers and educators will have access to an ACER Helpdesk throughout the pilot.

Professional learning

Before using the tool, teachers and educators will attend:

- a 2-day professional learning workshop if they are new to the Preschool Outcomes Measure National Tool, or
- a 1-day refresher workshop if they participated in the 2025 National Applied Trial.

Participating teachers and educators will have access to additional professional learning resources, including online materials and self-paced modules, to suit different levels of experience.

Protecting data and privacy

Participation is voluntary. You can withdraw your service from the pilot at any time by submitting a 'submit a request' contact form (<https://preschoolsupport.acer.org/hc/en-au/requests/new>).

Teachers, educators and children can also choose to stop participating at any time and parents or carers can choose to 'opt-out' at any time.

When using the Preschool Outcomes Measure National Tool, teachers will record information about children such as name, date of birth, languages spoken, First Nations status and any known developmental concerns. Teachers will also be invited to provide personal information about their qualifications, experience and First Nations status. Only authorised preschool staff and authorised ACER researchers will have access to identifiable information during the pilot.

Data from the pilot will only be used for research purposes to improve the Preschool Outcomes Measure National Tool. Any information shared outside ACER for research purposes will be de-identified. Data will not be used to rank or compare children or preschools. Data will be collected and managed by ACER in accordance with our privacy policy: www.acer.org/privacy.

ACER's Human Research Ethics Committee has approved this project (reference HREC-0363). If you have any questions about this process, contact Sarah Buckley, Chair of the ACER HREC at 03 9277 5475 or hrec@acer.org.

For more information about the pilot, you can contact ACER at preschool.support@acer.org.