# Getting Kids To School Transcript

Getting kids to school. There are many things that we can do to help kids get to school every day. Communities and families have lots of strengths that can be built upon to support education. But there are also things that stop kids from getting to school. We call these: barriers. If we can recognise and understand different types of strengths and barriers that impact school attendance, we can help keep the path to school open and clear for our kids. Every student, every family, and every community has strengths. By building upon these there are lots of things that we can do to help.

Remote School Attendance Strategy, or RSAS teams, can do things like encourage kids to get involved in fun activities at school, after school or during holidays. We can help families to get their kids to preschool so kids can begin school ready to learn. We can make sure families know what happens at school and can see their children having fun and learning. RSAS can help schools to bring more culture into the classroom and get to know families in the community better. We can build kids self-esteem by celebrating their achievements and encouraging them along the path. When kids are encouraged, their self-esteem goes up and they do better at school. Maybe a student has good manners, or helps someone at school, it can be as simple as that. We look for ways to celebrate the good things and share success with families. We also need to understand why some kids don’t make it to school every day and the different barriers some families face. Sometimes these are out of their control so it takes patience and time to know how and when to offer support.

Some common things that can keep kids from attending school are: health issues, some kids find it difficult to learn at school because they can’t hear very well, or they have other health issues that can make learning hard. In this case, RSAS might help a family to identify the problem and go to the doctor. There might be bullying at school, kids might not feel safe. RSAS teams can help by working with families in the school to develop an anti-bullying strategy. If the student is visiting or new to a school, they may not have made friends yet or feel connected. RSAS teams could introduce them to other people in the community, or link them with a buddy or mentor at school. Sometimes other things can happen in the home and can create big barriers to school attendance. Things like having a lot of family visiting their home, or fighting in their home, or between relatives. For these more complex things, RSAS teams might help families access specialist support services. RSAS is here to help kids and their families find a way through when the path gets bumpy. There are many practical things we can do to help to make the path easier for everyone. We are always there for a yarn. We listen to let families know that we are there to help and not to make them feel bad or get them in trouble. We focus on what’s important and we keep it simple. It’s about getting kids to school every day, celebrating their efforts, helping them make friends, and finding their role models and wherever possible, we bring good news and celebrate success. This shows everyone that we’re moving along the path together. That’s when the path starts to become clearer and getting to school every day becomes a little bit easier.

When we stand with students, we stand with their families. When we stand with schools, we stand with their communities. We’re in this together because school attendance is everyone’s business.