

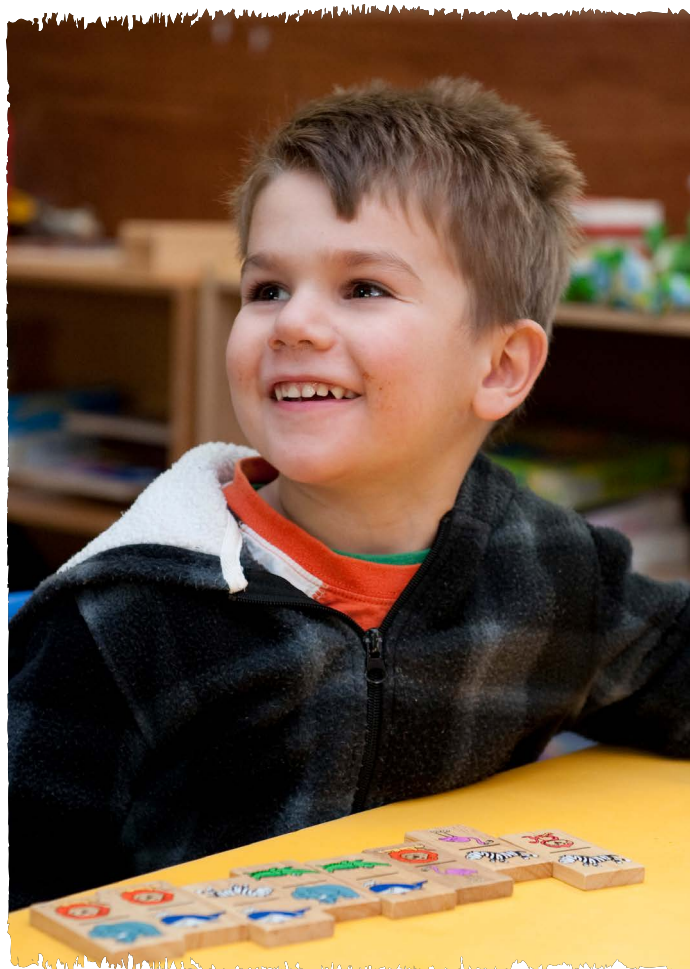
HOW RSAS CAN SUPPORT EARLY CHILDHOOD OUTCOMES

Going to preschool helps children get ready for the transition to primary school. It also means that children are more likely to attend school regularly and do well in the classroom. Preschool helps children learn how to share, listen, follow instructions and focus on tasks for short periods. It also helps families and children get used to the school routine.

If you are working with families that have young children, you can help them enrol in preschool and access other early childhood services. By working with families, RSAS can help make sure children are ready for school when the time comes.

➤ **Work with families and the preschool (or other early learning centres) to set up good attendance habits from a young age.**

- Work with the local preschool to let families know what services are available for their young children. Let families know they are welcome to be involved in the preschool too.
- Set up a community information session so that the preschool can come and talk about what they do.
- Encourage the preschool to have regular open days so that families can meet the staff and know that they are welcome.
- Some families might be scared to send their children to preschool. Let them know that their children will be cared for and talk about what activities they will be doing.
- Take time to talk to families about how important preschool is for their children. Let them know that preschool prepares children for success at school and later in life.
- Let families know that preschool is lots of fun for their children.
- Support the preschool to offer cultural activities, such as music or art.



➤ **If you are working with families that have young children, help them with preschool enrolment.**

- Provide families with information and contact details for the local preschool.
- Take parents to visit the preschool and meet the workers so they feel comfortable.
- Help families fill out enrolment forms and any other paperwork for the preschool.

➤ **Talk to families about the importance of other early childhood services, such as health checks or parent support groups.**

- Let families know what services are available for them and their young children.
- Provide information and referrals to local services when needed.
- Talk to families about the importance of giving children a good start in life, so they are ready to go to school when the time comes.

