



LINK LETTER



7 Oct 2021

Lawrence Street, Wodonga Victoria, 3690
Email: wodonga.west.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Phone: (02) 6024 1188
www.wodongawest.vic.gov.au

Enrolments are welcome for all year levels, including Kinder for 2021 & 2022

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be A Learner

Principals Message

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back for term 4 to all our families and students. We hope you all had a restful holiday break and got to get out and enjoy some of the lovely spring weather we had. We are so excited to begin getting back to a more normal routine with all our students being onsite for some part of week 2.

You may be aware that Mrs Owen is taking some leave this term to enjoy some time looking after her 4 month old grandson. She will be here at school every second week for a few days so you will see her around during these times. Whilst Mrs Owen is away Mrs Watson & I will be taking care of the school in the meantime. Mrs Watson's science classes will be covered by Jessica Bergstrom for the remainder of the year.

RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN

Below you will find a grid which shows which days each year level is attending onsite for week 2 & 3. These days are set by the Department of Education so no changes for individual families or students can be made to the days they attend onsite for these two weeks.

Regional Victoria* - Return to School Plan

*Does not apply to City of Latrobe and Mitchell Shire due to stay at home orders

	Mon 4 th Oct	Wed 6 th Oct	Mon 11 th Oct	From Tues 26 th Oct
Prep	Full Time	Full Time	Full Time	Full Time
Grade 1/2	Full Time	Full Time	Full Time	Full Time
Grade 3/4	No	No	Tuesday - Wednesday	Full Time
Grade 5/6	No	No	Thursday - Friday	Full Time

All students will be back together at school from Tuesday 26th October.

Supervision for children of essential workers will continue on all other days following the same criteria as this week. Please make sure if you require your child to be onsite that you contact the school and complete the required paperwork before your child attends for weeks 2 & 3.

COVID SAFE SCHOOL ACTIONS

There are a range of school measures being put into place to ensure all children are safe whilst at school and the risks of exposure to COVID 19 during the school day are minimised. These include:

- Hand washing and Sanitising routines on entry to classrooms after every break and throughout the day
- Separate play areas for designated year levels where possible
- Limited mixing between classrooms
- Limits to non-essential visitors within the school.
- Face masks for all staff and visitors to the school inside and outside, including children over the age of 12. Face masks are also recommended for primary aged students but not enforced.
- Limited whole school gatherings- these will be virtual if needed e.g. assembly
- Ventilation will be maximised in classrooms by keeping windows and doors open

We ask that all parents who come onsite at drop off and pick up time remain outside or meet your child near the gates and continue to support our Covid safe measures by not congregating in large groups and using the QR code to allow for quick contact if our school is deemed an exposure site.

HATS FOR TERM 4

It's time to hunt around at home and dust off those hats! All students are required to have a broad brim hat on for all playtimes during term 4. As a sun smart school we also reduce the risk of sun exposure by encouraging sunscreen application before playtimes. Students who do not have a hat must play in a covered shady area during playtimes. If your child has lost their hat, new ones can be purchased from the front office. Don't forget to clearly label it with their name.

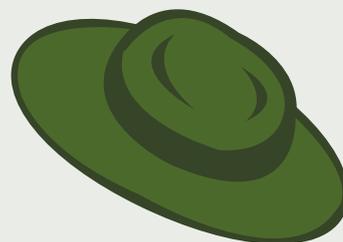
TRANSITION EVENTS

Due to the staged return to school for the next few weeks any Transition events for our Yr 6 Students & Foundation students have been postponed or are on hold. Once the Department of Education makes further decisions around the capacity of schools to host these sessions plans will be finalised. We will communicate these plans with the families directly involved as soon as we are updated on this.

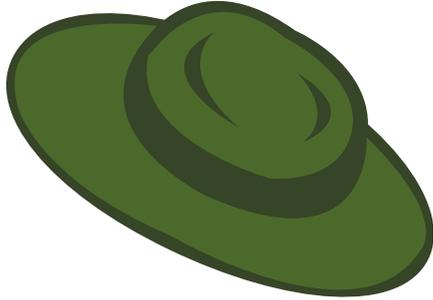
SCHOOL PLANNING 2022

The staff are currently underway with planning school structures for 2022. If you know your child is leaving the school at the end of the year could you please contact the front office as soon as possible so we can factor this into our decision making for next year.

Regards,
Britt Hartley
Acting Principal



Hats are required for Term 4



Our school policy at Wodonga West
Primary School is:
"No hat no play"

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Are you an avid gardener
without any land?

We have space at Wodonga West that is allocated to a community garden. We are looking for people that want to utilise this space and grow delicious food for their family.

If you are interested then please contact the office.





Wellbeing Report

WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH

Traditionally walk to school month is October each year. This year due to Covid and not having all students back on site full time, it has been postponed until November. I will put more information in the next link letter if this is going ahead.

PARENTING PROGRAMS

Parent & Relationship Education Programs and Parenting Support (bookings essential for all programs) –Term 4, 2021

Program	Venue	Date	Time	Phone
Tuning in to Kids (2-10 years) Emotionally Intelligent Parenting	Gateway Health Room F11b 155 High St, Wodonga	Fridays 29th October to 3rd December 2021	10am - 12pm	Intake Team (02) 6022 8888
Tuning in to Teens Emotionally Intelligent Parenting (10+ years)	Gateway Health Trainign Room G10 155 High St, Wodonga	Tuesdays 26th October to 30th November 2021	10am - 12pm	Intake Team (02) 6022 8888
Parenting Trans and Gender Diverse Kids and Teens	Gateway Health Training Room G10 155 High St, Wodonga	Wednesdays 13th October to 24th November 2021	6pm to 8pm	Intake Team (02) 6022 8888
Mother Goose (0-2 years)	Gateway Health Room F11a and b 155 High St, Wodonga	Wednesdays 13th October to 15th December 2021	10:30am -11:30am	Intake Team (02) 6022 8888

If you require a FREE breakfast pack,



please see Mrs Potter



Kinder Week 1, Term 4

The kinder room is back the way it's supposed to be with all the children returning after the holiday break. The children have really enjoyed socialising and reuniting with their peers this week.



The children have been participating in a variety of activities such as drawing, reading books, moulding with playdough, completing puzzles and building with construction sets, just to name a few. The interactions between all the children have been very strong and it is certainly evident that the children have missed the company of their friends. We look forward to further developing the children's skills this term as well as supporting the transition to school process for those students who are preparing for Primary school.



Just a reminder that all families will need to complete a 2022 enrolment form for their child for both Primary school and Kinder for next year. If you need an enrolment form or have any questions about this process please ask.

Child Safety – Message



Thankfully the weather is warming up and we can start to spend more time outdoors. But with the warmer weather we also need to be mindful of our safety.

Key things to remember: SLIP, SLOP, SLAP, and SLIDE.

Slip on a shirt, slop on sun screen, slap on a hat, and slide on the sun glasses.



Term 4 is a no hat, play in the shade term, and as such all students are required to wear a school approved sun smart board brimmed hat. (no caps)

School sun smart hats can be purchased from the front office for \$15
Some fantastic interactive facts and activities can be found on the Sunsmart web page at the link below.

<https://www.sunsmart.com.au/resources>

Yard Duty

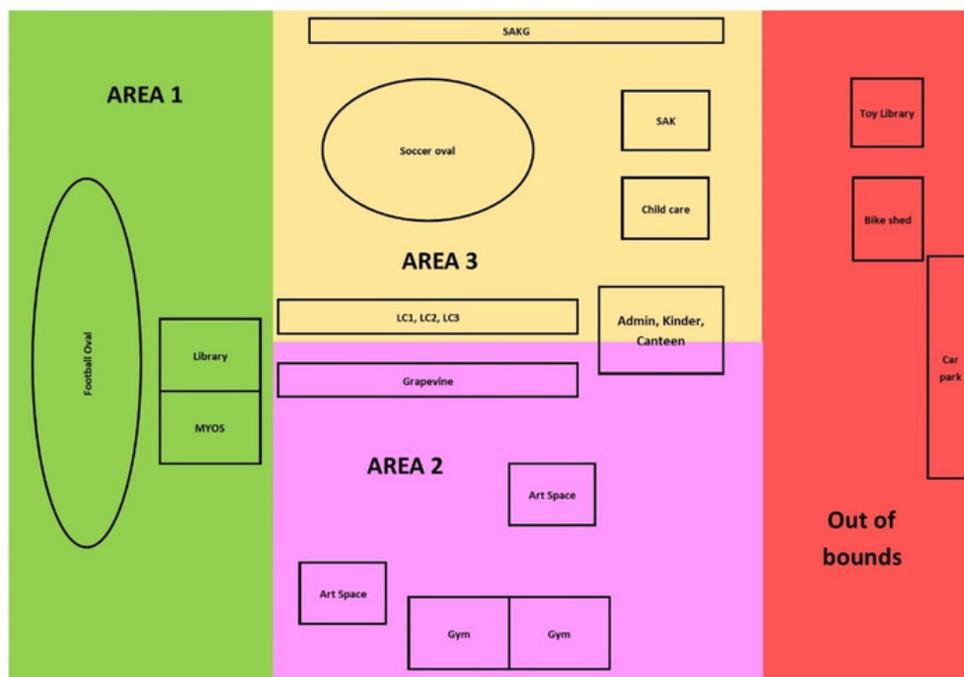
All staff at Wodonga West Primary School are expected to assist with yard duty supervision and will be included in the weekly roster.

The principal or Assistant Principal is responsible for preparing and communicating the yard duty roster on a regular basis. At Wodonga West Primary School, school staff will be designated a specific yard duty area to supervise. They are also responsible for devising the Wet/Hot Day duty roster and coordinating the Bin Roster. (see Timetable Policy) Staff members will be given the opportunity to have input into the timetables.

The yard supervision roster will require staff members to undertake yard duty before school, for lunchtime or recess (but not on the same day), or after school on specific days.

The designated yard duty areas for our school as of January 2020 are [outline areas and include map of zones where appropriate i.e:]

Zone	Area
Area 1	Football Oval
Area 2	Gunyah / Playground/maths garden
Area 3	Soccer Oval



YARD DUTY POLICY

School staff must wear a provided safety/hi-vis vest whilst on yard duty. Safety/hi-vis vests will be provided and stored in every classroom. Staff must also carry have a bum bag with basic first aid supplies including sick bay passes. It is the staff members' responsibility to ensure their bum bag supplies are regularly replenished.

Staff who are rostered for yard duty must remain in the designated area until they are replaced by a relieving teacher.

During yard duty, supervising staff must:

- Classroom teachers are responsible for supervising students for the 10 minute eating time at the beginning of lunch and recess
- methodically move around the designated zone
- be alert and vigilant
- intervene immediately if potentially dangerous or inappropriate behaviour is observed in the yard enforce behavioural standards and implement appropriate consequences for breaches of safety rules, in accordance with any relevant disciplinary measures set out in your school's Student Engagement and Wellbeing policy
- Yard duty staff members are also to have a Duty Clipboard and are required to implement and reward the expectations for yard behaviour with students as per our school wide positive behaviour matrix.
- During Sun-smart times (September to April) staff are expected to wear an appropriate hat and ensure they have applied sun protection if required
- ensure that students who require first aid assistance receive it as soon as practicable
- ensure the yard is left tidy and that any OH&S issues are reported to the OH&S officer/Leadership.
- log any incidents or near misses as appropriate in the yard incidence slips/SWPBS referral form which are then handed into the wellbeing officer.

If the supervising staff member is unable to conduct yard duty at the designated time, they should contact the Principal/ Assistant Principal with as much notice as possible prior to the relevant yard duty shift to ensure that alternative arrangements are made.

If the supervising staff member needs to leave yard duty during the allocated time, they should contact the Principal/ Assistant Principal but should not leave the designated area until the relieving staff member has arrived in the designated area.

If a relieving or next staff member does not arrive for yard duty, the staff member currently on duty should send a message to the office/call Assistant Principal and not leave the designated area until a replacement staff member has arrived.

Should students require assistance during recess or lunchtime, they are encouraged to speak to the supervising yard duty staff member.

If Staff become aware of unknown visitors in the school grounds if safe to do so they should approach and request they leave school grounds. Staff should maintain visual contact whilst they use their mobile phone to seek assistance from the office.

Classroom

The classroom teacher is responsible for the supervision of all students in their care during class.

If a teacher needs to leave the classroom unattended at any time during a lesson, they should first contact front office for assistance. The teacher should then wait until another staff member has arrived at the classroom to supervise the class prior to leaving.

School activities, camps and excursions

The principal and leadership team are responsible for ensuring that students are appropriately supervised during all school activities, camps and excursions, including when external providers are engaged to conduct part or all of the activities. Appropriate supervision will be planned for special school activities, camps and excursions on an individual basis, depending on the activities to be undertaken and the level of potential risk involved.

Further Information and Resources

- the Department's Policy and Advisory Library:
 - Supervision of Students
 - Duty of Care
 - Child Safe Standards
 - Visitors in Schools

Review Cycle

This policy was last updated in August 2020 and is scheduled for review on 2021. This policy will also be updated if significant changes are made to school grounds that require a revision of Wodonga West Primary School's Yard Duty and Supervision Policy.

Upcoming Events/Info

Service Times

BSC – 7:00 to 9:00

ASC – 3:30 to 6:00

November 2nd

Melbourne cup

day – OPEN

CLOSED 20/12/21

Holiday Program

operates at

Wodonga South,

Melrose Primary

and Victory

Lutheran College

What's New in Term 4

This term we will be making the most of our outdoor spaces and natural environment. Each afternoon will be spent in a different playground to encourage children to test their abilities and allow for a variety of activities. We have purchased bug catchers and magnifying glasses to further extend on children's interest in insects. All bugs will be released into their natural habitat at the end of each day.

We are establishing a leadership program within the service to promote positive behaviours and acknowledge children who follow our service expectations.

We continue to experiment with new tastes and flavours for afternoon tea. A reminder that all dietary requirements are provided for.

We are bringing a mindful moment to each day. As the group joins each afternoon, educators will run a short session where children will be encouraged to be calm as we take a moment to appreciate what we have.



	Monday	Toastie Tuesday	Wednesday	Thickshake Thursday	Friday
Breakfast (Served until 8:15am)	Children may select from the following options: Tuesday: toasted sandwich with cheese/tomato Wholemeal/Raisin toast with strawberry/plum/apricot jam, vegemite, honey, cheese spread Choice of cereal: weetbix, corn flakes, rice bubbles, special K, sustain, putri -grain, just right, sultana bran,				
Breakfast Drink	Reduced fat milk or water Thursday: Smoothies will be made with reduced fat milk and children's choice of fruit				
	Monday	Tuesday	Mid-Week Movie Wednesday	Thursday	Frosty Friday
Afternoon tea	Choice of fruit: banana, watermelon, rockmelon, apple, mandarin, strawberries, pear, kiwi fruit, grapefruit, Choice of vegetables: cucumber, celery, avocado, carrot,				
	Roasted edamame chips, Broccoli floret chips, Pretzels	Crackers with: vegemite, tomato, avocado, cheese, or tuna	<u>2 minute</u> noodles Beef flavour	Muesli and yoghurt with choice of: Dried cranberries, Sultanas, Dried apricots	Choice of icy poles or ice cream

Service Number – 0447 007 004

TheiCare HQ - 1300 072 410

Service Email –
wodongwest@theircare.com.au

TheiCare Email -
info@theircare.com.au

Term 4

2 Hour Information Sessions

Via Zoom

Raising confident, Competent Children

For parents and carers of children aged between 2-12 years

This sessions looks at

- How we teach our children to be respectful and considerate
- Supporting good communication and social skills.
- Having a healthy self esteem,
- Support problem solving
- Encourage independence

**Friday 22nd October
10am—12pm**

Emotion Coaching — Connecting with our kids

For parents and carers of children aged between 2-10 years

This sessions looks at

- Emotional intelligence and why it's important
- Children's brain development
- How to tune into your children's emotions
- Help manage behaviours,
- Support children to regulate
- Their emotions different styles of parenting

**Wednesday 27th
October
7pm—9pm**

Adolescent Parenting

For parents and carers of children aged between 12—18 years

This sessions looks at

- Development of teenager's and it's impacts and challenges
- How we can support your teenager's emotions and build resilience,
- Connecting with your teenager
- Helping to problem solve
- Family values.

**Tuesday 16th
November 7pm—9pm**

The Power of Positive Parenting

For parent and carers of children aged between 2-12 years

This sessions looks at

- Building strong relationships with children,
- Good communication
- Teaching new skills
- Predictable routines
- Expectations of children
- Focusing on the positives
- Balancing family life

**Thursday 18th
November
10am -12pm**

Bookings are essential

Contact Andrea on 0457 279 796 to enrol or for more information



Our sites

Wangaratta
45-47 Mackay Street
Wangaratta Vic 3677
T: (03) 5723 2000

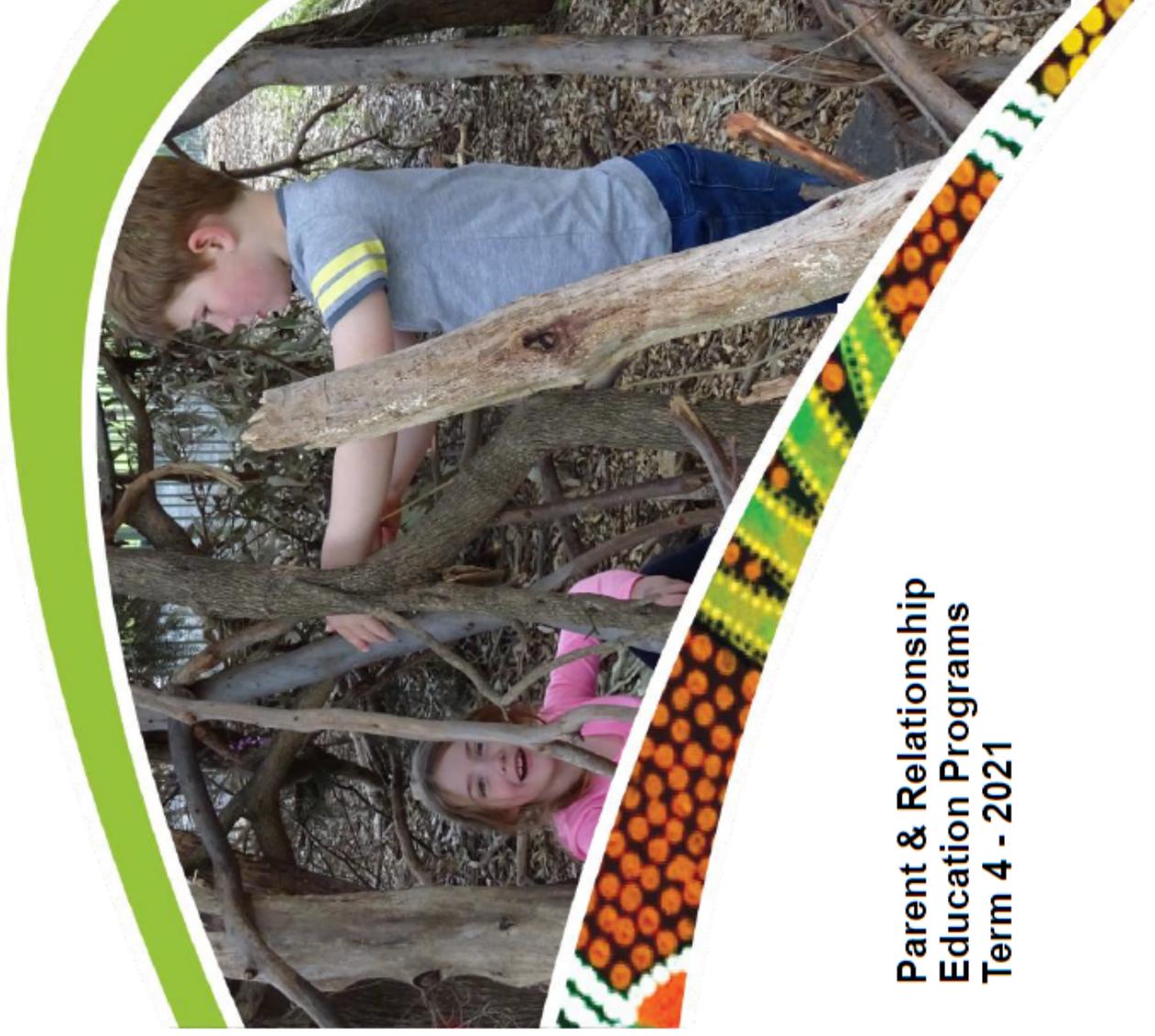
Wodonga
155 High Street
Wodonga, Vic 3690
Freecall: 1800 657 573
T: (02) 6022 8888

Myrtleford
32 Smith Street
Myrtleford Vic 3737
T: (03) 5731 3500



www.gatewayhealth.org.au

www.facebook.com/gatewayhealth1



**Parent & Relationship
Education Programs
Term 4 - 2021**

Parent & Relationship Education Programs and Parenting Support –Term 4, 2021

(bookings essential for all programs)

Program	Venue	Date	Time	Phone:
WODONGA				
Tuning in to Kids Emotionally Intelligent Parenting (2-10 years)	Gateway Health Room F11b 155 High St, Wodonga	Fridays 29th October to 3rd December 2021	10am - 12pm	Intake Team (02) 6022 8888
Tuning in to Teens Emotionally Intelligent Parenting (10+ years)	Gateway Health Trainign Room G10 155 High St, Wodonga	Tuesdays 26th October to 30th November 2021	10am to 12pm	
Parenting Trans and Gender Diverse Kids and Teens	Gateway Health Training Room G10 155 High St, Wodonga	Wednesdays 13th October to 24th November 2021	6pm to 8pm	
Mother Goose (0-2 years)	Gateway Health Room F11a and b 155 High St, Wodonga	Wednesdays 13th October to 15th December 2021	10:30am -11:30am	
TALLANGATTA				
Mother Goose (0-2 years)	Tallangatta Library 33 Towong St, Tallangatta	Thursdays 7th October to 16th December 2021	10:30am-11:30am	Paula 0447310679
WANGARATTA—GROUP				
Tuning in to Teens Emotionally Intelligent Parenting (10+ years)	Wangaratta Library 21 Docker St Wangaratta Vic 3677	Wednesdays 27th October to 24th November 2021	10am to 12pm	Intake Team (03) 5723 2000
Individual Parenting Support - WANGARATTA				
Individual Parenting Support— Wangaratta Based	Gateway Health 45-47 Mackay Street Wangaratta Vic 3677	By Appointment Only Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday	Business Hours	Intake Team (03) 5723 2000

Supporting your child to start school in 2022

You are invited to a **free information session** to support parents and carers to understand what is involved in a positive transition to school and how this can be supported at home, as well as through strong links with children's kindergarten and school.

Presented by: Early childhood experts
Heather Barnes and Debbie Cole

When: Tuesday 12 October, 7pm – 8pm

Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/supporting-your-child-to-start-school-in-2022-ovens-murray-tickets-173123937357>



Supporting your child to start school in 2022 – Ovens Murray

Presented by Heather Barnes and Debbie Cole



Heather Barnes OAM (BEd, Dip. Teaching Early Childhood) is an early childhood consultant and has had a career of over forty-five years in the sector. She currently provides quality improvement coaching for early childhood services, presents at conferences, provides webinars and writes resources. Heather was a member of the Victorian Children's Council for 10 years and is a Life Member of Gowrie Victoria. Heather has delivered Transition to school workshops for educators for the Department of Education and Training since 2017. She has three children and four grandchildren.



Debbie Cole (MEd) is a trainer and consultant in early childhood education, with over thirty years experience in the field. She is a qualified kindergarten teacher and works closely with early childhood educators to improve programs, and outcomes for children and families. She has been facilitating workshops on transition to school for a number of years, alongside other training that builds relationships between early childhood, school, families and communities.