

# THE BICULTURAL SUPPORT PROGRAM



The **Bicultural Support Program** is a free, state-wide, time-limited service, available to Australian Government approved children's services. The Bicultural Support Program is run by **Ethnic Child Care Family & Community Services Co-operative** for Children's Services Central. Children's Services Central is the Professional Support Co-ordinator in New South Wales and is an initiative funded by the Australian Government under the Inclusion and Professional Support Program.

The Bicultural Support Program offers time-limited support from either an **on-site Bicultural Support Worker** or an **off-site Bicultural Support Consultant**.

## An on-site Bicultural Support Worker

The Bicultural Support Program consists of 350+ Bicultural Support Workers who represent 110 different languages and dialects. These workers support services with the transition and participation of children from an Indigenous, Refugee or Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) background.

### The Bicultural Support Worker can:

- provide hands on specific language and/or cultural assistance to children, parents and staff;
- promote the child's culture in the service by supporting the development of culturally appropriate experiences;
- provide initial language assistance to children, parents and staff to support communication processes eg, interpreting meetings between parents and staff, verbal translation of enrolment forms, providing staff with key words and phrases;
- assist staff to understand diverse cultural practices and child-rearing practices in Australian society eg, help develop an understanding of the families culture and practices;
- promote children's self esteem about their cultural heritage and the maintenance of their home language.

## An off-site Bicultural Support Consultant

The Bicultural Support Program employs a team of experienced and qualified Bicultural Support Consultants.

### The Bicultural Support Consultant can:

- facilitate communication between services and families by assisting the service in communicating with culturally diverse families and children;
- facilitate cultural awareness by providing the service with an understanding of relevant cultural issues;
- support curricula or programming by assisting with the implementation of culturally and linguistically appropriate practices and a culturally inclusive program;
- support resources and linkages by providing the service with information, where available, about relevant community resources and services to support the inclusion of culturally diverse children and families.

### FOR INFORMATION REGARDING THE BICULTURAL SUPPORT PROGRAM CONTACT:

Ethnic Child Care, Family and Community Services Co-operative Ltd

Ph: 02 9569 1288 | [www.eccfcsc.org](http://www.eccfcsc.org)

### TO ACCESS BICULTURAL SUPPORT CONTACT:

Children's Services Central

Ph: 1800 157 818 (toll free number) | [www.cscentral.org.au](http://www.cscentral.org.au)  
and/or your Inclusion Support Agency (ISA)

[www.cscentral.org.au/support/inclusion-support-agencies.html](http://www.cscentral.org.au/support/inclusion-support-agencies.html)



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COMMUNITY SERVICES CO-OPERATIVE LTD



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