

Family School Engagement Program Referral Criteria

CYMHS Family School Engagement Program (5-12 y/o):

The Family School Engagement Program is an early intervention program designed to support children aged 5-12 and their families who are at risk of chronic school refusal and disengagement. The aim of the program is to provide assertive and timely therapeutic interventions for both families and the broader school system to prevent entrenched and chronic school refusal.

Referral Criteria for the Family School Engagement Program:

For the purposes of referrals, the following definitions of School dis-engagement will apply:

School refusal - When a child or young person does not want, or refuses to attend school often involving a high level of distress and/or anxiety about school attendance

School withdrawal - Regular pattern of not attending school with parent/carer consent often due to a range of factors

Tuancy - Non-attendance without parent/carer knowledge or permission

FAMILY AND CHILD WILL NEED TO MEET EACH CRITERION (please tick):

- ☐ Primary presenting issue is School refusal/school disengagement.
- ☐ Families with children enrolled in mainstream schools within the Maroondah, Knox and Yarra Ranges Primary School Networks, aged 5-12 years (Independent Schools are not being included for the purpose of pilot).
- ☐ Evidence of poor school attendance. Minimum requirement of 10%- non- attendance within two previous school terms (e.g. minimum 20 days missed over last two school terms. Absenteeism due to illness/COVID19 not included).
- ☐ IQ>70 (Children with intellectual disabilities/borderline IQ are excluded for the purposes of the pilot).
- ☐ Families to be consenting and open to whole family and school involvement. Requests for individual work only with young person are not considered.
- ☐ Requirement of permanent and stable care arrangement (e.g. primary care givers, kinship care, long term foster placement).
- ☐ Evidence of attempted engagement between school and family (e.g. School has initiated staged response to non-attendance).

Exclusion Criteria:

- Active safety/risk concerns. (**Current** reports of Family violence, sexual abuse, neglect)
- Children in OOHC (temporary foster placements, residential care, emergency accommodation, unstable placement).

Family School Engagement Program - Primary School Networks

Maroondah School Network

Ainslie Parklands PS, Bayswater North PS, Croydon Hills PS, Croydon PS, Dorset PS, Eastwood PS and Deaf Facility, Great Ryrie PS, Heathmont East PS, Kalinda PS, Marlborough PS, Mullum PS, Ringwood Heights PS, Ringwood North PS, Ruskin Park PS, Tinternvale PS, Warranwood PS, Yarra Road PS, Bayswater PS, Bayswater South PS (bilingual ed), Bayswater West PS

Knox School Network

Boronia Heights PS, Boronia K-12 College, Boronia West PS, Carrington PS, Eastern Ranges School, Fairhills PS, Ferntree Gully North PS, Heany Park PS, Karoo PS, Kent Park PS, Knox Central PS, Knox Gardens PS, Knox Park PS, Lysterfield PS, Mountain Gate PS, Park Ridge PS, Regency Park PS, Rowville PS, Scoresby PS, Templeton PS, The Basin PS, Upper Ferntree Gully PS, Wantirna PS, Wantirna South PS, Wattle View PS

Dandenong Ranges School Network

Belgrave South PS, Ferny Creek PS, Kallista PS, Macclesfield PS, Menzies Creek PS, Monbulk College, Monbulk PS, Mount Dandenong PS, Olinda PS, Sassafras PS, Selby PS, Sherbrooke Community School, Tecoma PS, The Patch PS, Upwey PS, Upwey South PS, Cockatoo PS, Emerald PS, Gembrook PS

Referral Pathways

- Family self-referral and referrals from supporting agencies must come through the Eastern Health ICYMHS ACCESS team. ACCESS can be contacted on 1300 721 927.
- Primary schools listed above can make direct referrals to the Family School Engagement Program. This is done by completing the referral form, and emailing it to cymhsschoolengagementprogram@easternhealth.org.au