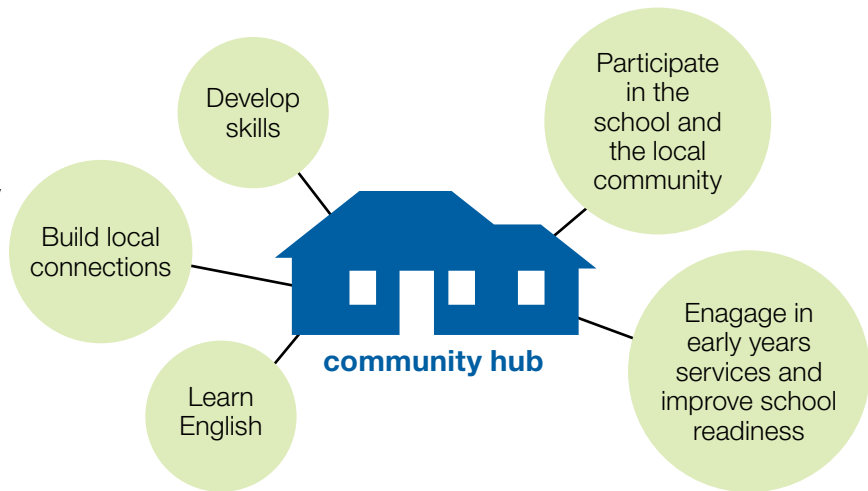


Community hubs program model

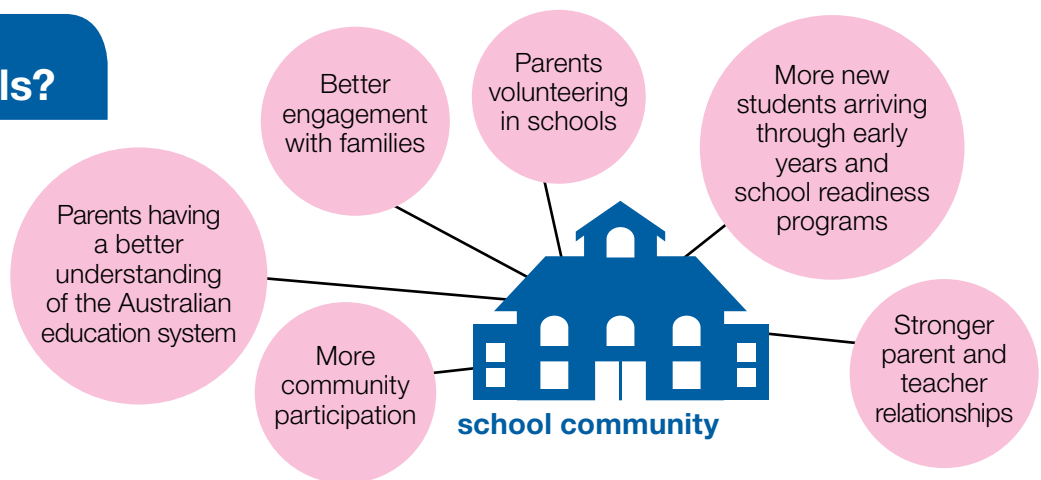
What are community hubs?

Community hubs are generally based in primary schools. They collaborate to engage culturally diverse, disadvantaged communities across Australia, empowering people to:



How do hubs benefit schools?

Schools with a community hub report a range of positive outcomes, including:



What is required to run a hub?

When you welcome a hub into the school community, it becomes a bridge for school leadership and teachers to engage culturally isolated communities. As well as this leadership commitment, a school provides:

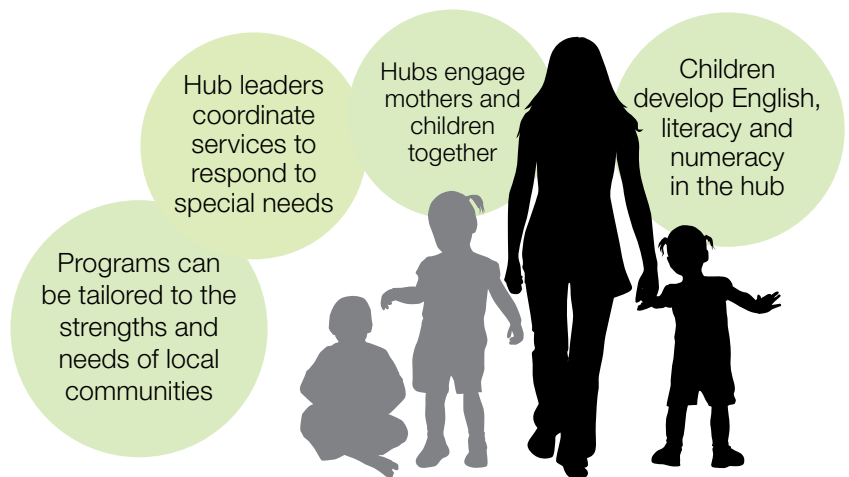


Program profiles

Every hub is different, but works towards a common goal of building social cohesion in Australian communities through engaging culturally isolated women, building local connections and delivering formal and informal skills training. Programming is tailored to your hub by your hub leader consulting with families and with the support of the national network.

Outcomes for children

Schools in culturally diverse locations report that children can start their first day at school with no exposure to the Australian education setting and sometimes, due to the traumatic experiences that led to coming to Australia, no experience of being separated from a parent.



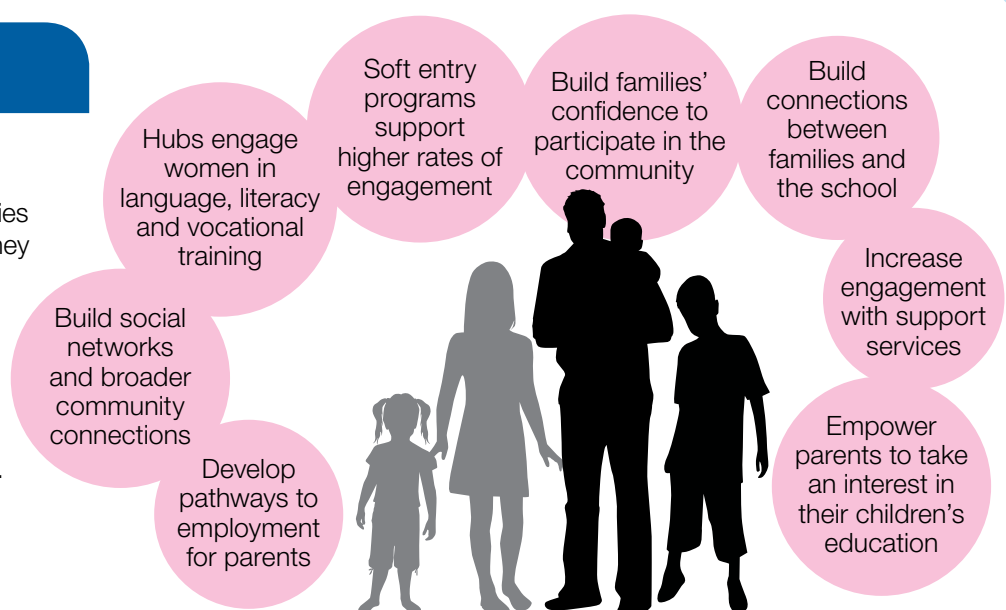
Early years and school readiness

The Hub has helped us achieve getting families with pre-school kids involved with the school community and the Hub. At the interviews this year we noticed the difference in the children, who have had no other intervention outside the Hub, but now have developed their skills just through attending regular playgroup. The playgroup has allowed us to identify families who benefit from support to transition to school as well as the special needs of children before they start school, such as speech pathologists. This means we can be prepared for the New Year.

Celestine Boundy, Principal - St Paul's Catholic School, QLD

Outcomes for families

Culturally isolated women with young children are more likely to miss opportunities to engage with services as they transition to life in Australia. Hubs invest time in building trust with women who have escaped traumatic situations, to embed the school as a trusted place where parents and children can both engage.



Outcomes for the school and the community

Engaging culturally diverse families in planning days, working bees, parent groups and school volunteering opportunities is sometimes difficult. This could be as simple as families not understanding that these opportunities exist, or could stem from cultural isolation and families not feeling like they belong in the community.

They provide a community space in the school that supports volunteer engagement

Hubs are a bridge between culturally diverse families, the school and the community

Culturally diverse families develop a sense of belonging

Hub leaders build relationships and identify how families can contribute



Women's education opportunities

We have women who may be full-time mums or working part time have a space to come together and develop life skills and build social connections. It's great. The school has been very open to having community come in and we get a community learning space that is flexible and supportive. Even the playroom downstairs, you don't pay, you just come in. It's more about giving people that opportunity to meet other people but also give their child the opportunity to develop social skills.

Steffi Dourado, Hub Leader - St Brendan's Catholic Primary School, NSW



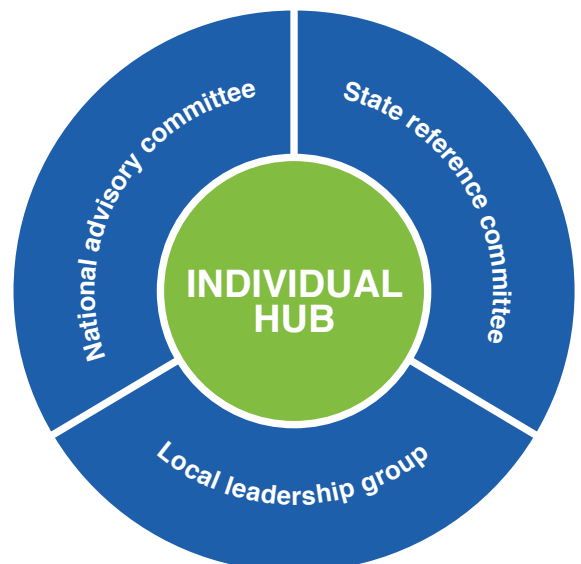
Engaging parents

When our kids are getting ready for school in the morning, they're seeing their parents get ready for work or training too. Our previous adult education classes didn't work well because they weren't part of a pathway to further training or employment. So we made our hub into a community learning space.

We formed a partnership with Banksia Gardens Community Services to work with individual families and deliver tailored training courses. When you're establishing a hub everything you do needs to be predicated on and linked to learning and you have to draw a ring around that. It's about education not welfare.

Valerie Karaitiana, Principal - Dallas Brooks Primary School, VIC

Governance Structure

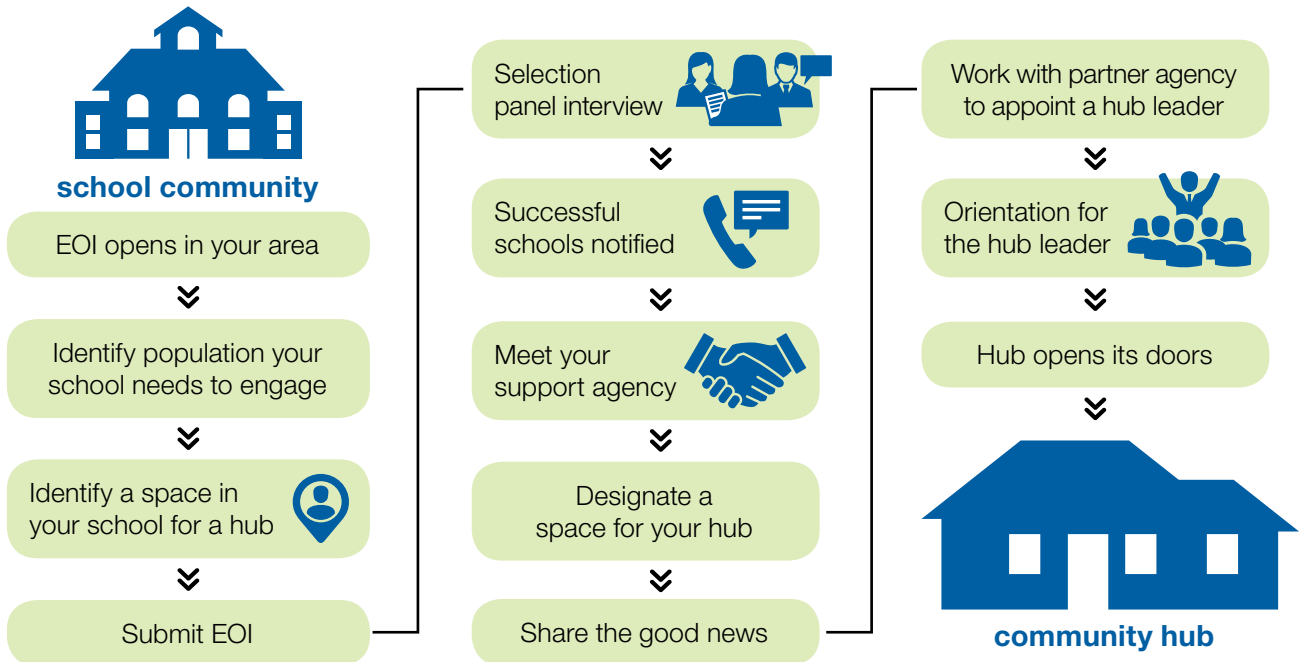


Community hubs
Connect. Share. Learn.

Ready to apply?

From putting in your expression of interest to fostering a welcoming environment for a hub leader to thrive, there is a standard process for any school to open a hub.

The Process



The first 12 months

You've been successful in your EOI, designated a space, found a hub leader and welcomed them to the school.

What does a hub leader do in the first 12 months?

Set up a welcoming space

Get to know the teachers at your school

Arrange a sign for the front of your school

Meet with families at the school gate

Consult with families about activities to deliver

Go out and build partnerships to benefit families and the school

Trial and tailor programs

Bring in services to deliver programs

Engage services to facilitate referrals

Attend and present at staff meetings

Spend time learning from other hub leaders in the network

Get parents and the broader community volunteering in school

Meet with you regularly to provide updates and seek support

For more information:

www.communityhubsaustralia.org.au

Email: EOI@communityhubs.org.au

