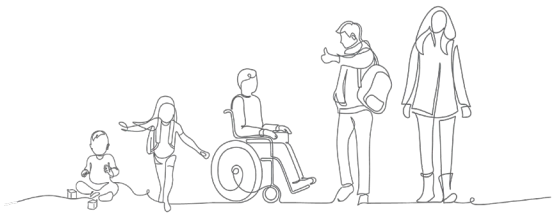


EARLY LEARNING FOR THREE YEAR OLDS

COMMUNIQUE 4 – JULY 2023

Release of the What We Heard Report

What we heard: Community Engagement on Early Learning for Three Year Olds has been released and provides a summary of broad community engagement undertaken on the Early Learning for Three Year Olds initiative in March and April 2023.

Guided by the Co-Design Planning, DECYP engaged with families, service providers and community members across Tasmania to hear from communities what early learning could look like.

DECYP held 32 workshops in 25 towns and cities across Tasmania, and there was a strong uptake on an online survey. This means over 340 people have had their say on early learning in their communities.

The Co-Design Planning Group provided further valuable feedback on a draft of the What We Heard Report in May 2023.

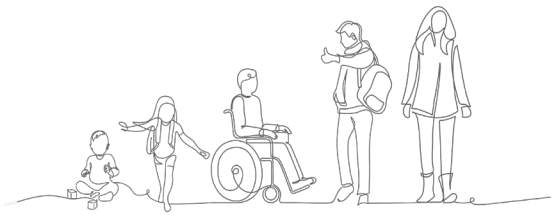
Co-chairs Ros Cornish and Jenny Burgess would like to thank the Co-Design Planning Group for their ongoing support, expertise and involvement in this work.

What we heard: Community Engagement on Early Learning for Three Year Olds is available online.

Announcement of communities that will work together to establish trial sites

Five communities across Tasmania have been selected to work together to establish trial early learning services for three year olds in 2024 to meet local community needs:

- St Helens, St Marys, Beaumaris, Scamander, Fingal, with possible outreach to Coles Bay and/or Glamorgan-Spring Bay (Break O'Day LGA, Glamorgan-Spring Bay LGA)
- East Devonport (Devonport City LGA)
- Flinders Island and Cape Barren Island (Flinders LGA)
- Bruny Island (Kingborough LGA)
- Queenstown, Strahan, Zeehan and Rosebery (West Coast LGA)



Selection of these communities was based on broad community engagement and an assessment of need and 'community readiness'.

DECYP will also commence a research and development project across Hobart and Launceston with key stakeholders in both regions, including the Co-Design Planning Group, to better understand the supports and action needed for future expansion of early learning for three year olds in these areas.

In June 2023, the Co-Design Planning Group developed and endorsed a Criteria for Assessment to guide the selection of communities, which was undertaken by DECYP with recommendations for decision provided to the Minister for Education, Children and Youth.

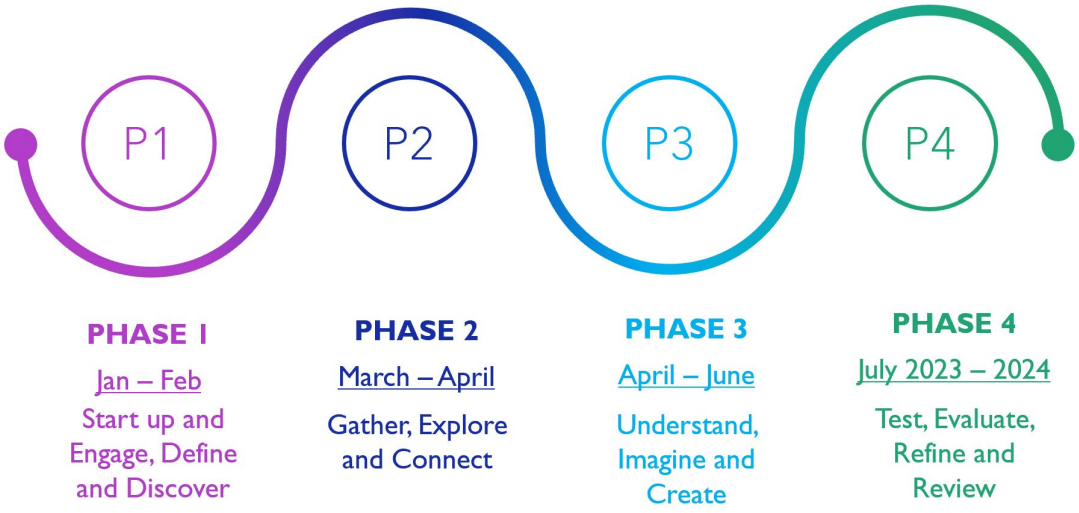
The Co-Design Planning Group agreed members of the Group would not be part of the trial site selection panel due to perceived and actual conflicts of interest relating to the future delivery of services in the trial sites.

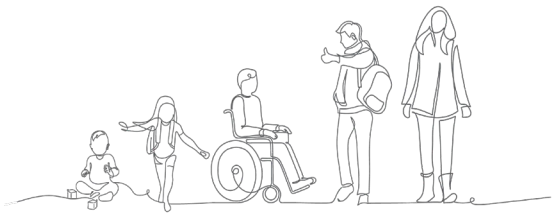
Next Steps

Following the announcement of the trial site locations, DECYP will commence Phase 4 of the Co-Design Roadmap and work in partnership with families, community members, ECEC providers and other key early years services through Local Enabling Groups to establish the trial sites using a place-based approach.

If you wish to be involved please visit Early Learning for Three Year Old or contact el3@decyp.tas.gov.au for further information.

Early Learning for Three Year Olds Co-Design Roadmap





Have a query?

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact el3@decyp.tas.gov.au

Previous Communiques on implementation of Early Learning for Three Years Olds can be found on online.