

Inquiry into Foundational and Disability Supports Available for Children and Young People in New South Wales (Select Committee)

Post-hearing responses

Hearing: Friday 30 May 2025

Question taken on notice: health and development checks (page 48)

Answer

I am advised:

NSW Health, in collaboration with the Department of Education, has provided more than 19,000 [health and development checks for four-year-olds in preschool settings](#) across NSW since the program commenced rollout in September 2023.

To support delivery of health and development checks in preschools, resources on the [Culturally Safe Approach \(CSA\) for health and development checks](#) have been developed and released.

The [Health and Development Participation Grant](#) has been designed to support uptake by ECEC services in the Health and Development Check in Early Childhood Education and Care program and to support ECEC staff capability uplift around children's health and development. Engagement strategies were implemented to encourage services with high number of Aboriginal children and/or CALD children to apply. In 2025, 862 ECEC services were awarded grants (totalling over \$5.8 million). Included in this figure were 13 Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs).

Aboriginal families can also access universal services, including health and development checks, provided by their local health district. Some Aboriginal families may choose to access targeted Aboriginal child and family health services such as Building Strong Foundations services (BSF). Some districts have identified other funding sources to provide evidence based child and family health programs to Aboriginal families.

Districts and networks also use [NSW Health Care Interpreting Services](#) to support families that do not speak English as a first language.

NSW Health also has available child and family health resources translated in a range of community languages.