

AABDS's PRACTICES FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EARLY INTERVENTION

Family

- Family-Centred and Strengths-Based Practice**
 AABDS uses values, skills, behaviours and knowledge to recognise the central role of families in children's lives. We work with families in partnership to ensure family life, and family priorities and choices drive what happens in planning and intervention. Our professionals will build on family strengths and assist families to develop their own networks of resources – both informal and formal.
- Culturally Responsive Practice**
 AABDS creates welcoming and culturally inclusive environments where all families are encouraged to participate in and contribute to children's learning and development. AABDS acknowledges and respects diversity and provides services and supports in flexible ways that are responsive to each family's cultural, ethnic, racial, language and socioeconomic characteristics.

Inclusion

- Inclusive and Participatory Practice**
 AABDS recognises that every child regardless of their needs has the right to participate fully in their family and community life and to have the same choices, opportunities and experiences as other children. All children need to feel accepted and to have a real sense of belonging. Children with disability and/or developmental delay may require additional support to enable them to participate meaningfully in their families, community and early childhood settings.
- Engaging the Child in Natural Environments**
 AABDS promotes children's inclusion through participation in daily routines, at home, in the community, and in early childhood settings. These natural learning environments contain many opportunities for all children to engage, participate, learn and practise skills, thus strengthening their sense of belonging.

Teamwork

- Collaborative Teamwork Practice**
 AABDS will work with the family as a collaborative and integrated team around the child, communicating and sharing information, knowledge and skills, with one team member nominated as a key worker and main person working with the family.
- Capacity-Building Practice**
 AABDS will endeavour to build the capacity of the child and family through coaching and collaborative team work. The goal is to build the knowledge, skills and abilities of the individuals who will spend the most time with the child in order to have as great an impact as possible on the child's learning and development.

Universal Principles

- **Evidence Base, Standards, Accountability and Practice**

AABDS has practitioners with appropriate expertise and qualifications who use intervention strategies that are grounded in research and sound clinical reasoning. Standards based on ECEI key best practices will ensure AABDS is accountable to continuous improvement and high-quality services.

- **Outcome Based Approach**

AABDS focuses on outcomes that parents want for their child and family, and on identifying the skills needed to achieve these outcomes. AABDS's practitioners must share their professional expertise and knowledge to enable families to make informed decisions. AABDS will focus on participation in meaningful activities in the home and community with outcomes measured and evaluated by AABDS from a child, family and community perspective.