



**Stake holder Meeting:
Children with complex health care needs in
education settings
Action Minutes
T1**

Meeting Date: 20 April 2012

Subject: Stake holder Meeting: Children with complex health care needs in Education settings Meeting of 20 April 2012

Source: Kim Townsend Personnel Assistant to the Director Women, Youth and Children Community Health Programs.

Purpose/comments:

**Stake holder Meeting:
Children with complex health care needs in education settings
16 May 2012**

ACTION MINUTES

Attendance and Apologies

In Attendance:

Elizabeth Chatham

Executive Director Health Directorate of Women, Youth and Children (WYC)

Dania Neverauskas

Director of Women Youth and Children Community Health Programs

Carolyn Thomas

Community Health Programs Central Team Manager

Helen Jackson

Community Health Programs Clinical Nurse Consultant and project officer

Fiona Cameron

Clinical Nurse Consultant WYC Community Health Programs, Caring for Kids Program

Kim Townsend

Personal Assistant to Dania Neverauskas Director of (WYCCHP)

Kelly Swan

Senior Disability Advisor, Human Rights Commission & Disability and Community Services

Stephen Gniel

Director, Education and Training Directorate School Improvement Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education and Student Engagement.

Kerry Heath

Manager School Improvement Aboriginal and Torres Strait Education and student Engagement

Ros Donohoe

Assistant Manager Disability Education

Anne Siripol

Manager Education and Training Directorate

Jayne Johnson

Executive Director School Improvement

Apologies:

Deb Schaler

Policy officer, Health Directorate of Women, Youth and Children (WYC)

Agenda Items:

1. Welcome
2. Project outline
3. Needs Analysis
4. Research/ Literature review findings
5. Consumers Forums : Update
6. Schools / Principals Forums Update
7. Discussion

Purpose/comments:

Needs Analysis – Education and Training Directorate (DET)

An initial assessment has been conducted to quantify the number of students in ACT government schools who require additional support of complex health.

The aim is to ensure that children with complex health care requirements are able to attend school and have full inclusion in school activities.

This is a high growth area and need is currently being met in an ad hock manner by a combination of Learning Support Assistants (LSA's), parents and health care support workers.

Early recognition of complex health needs and having appropriate plans in place is a high priority however DET are concerned that they do not have the expertise to meet these needs.

A Flow chart was presented– outlining Main stream Preschool, primary and Secondary Schools.
There is Disability Funding.

Research / Literature review findings – presentation by health project officer.

A copy of the Power point presentation is attached

Issues arising in the discussion:

- There is a current inequality of services to families as there is no systematic assessment of children with complex health needs before they enter school. Some children receive an abundance of assistance others none.
- A number of models were reviewed and DET representatives requested time to consider the options and their implications such as;
 - the industrial implications of changing the role of LSA's to incorporate some health training and support (the preferred model identified by Health)
 - The new school management model provides greater individual school independence and decision making so the introduction of a consistent model may not be easy.
- The establishment of an entry assessment process was supported. The project team will investigate possible membership, terms of reference and structure of the panel and its work.
- The assessment and care plan would be child centred and move with them through the different school settings; however a regular review process would ensure relevance of the care plan.
- Policies, guidelines etc need to be developed.
- The project team will undertake further research in South Australia and Victoria to further inform our deliberations.

Consumer Forums Schools/Principals Forums

DET requested that consultation be delayed until a clearer model is formulated. Health would prefer to get consumer and principal engagement in defining aspects of the model. A meeting will be organized by Stephen Gniel (Acting ED School Improvement) of the executive planning group as soon as possible to plan for the progression of this project and in particular to develop plans for ongoing support at Woden special school and the other three schools where students are currently being supported by health care support workers (HCSW).

Other Actions

Health will continue with the project including developing an action plan, collating and reviewing policies, procedures, Duty statements, structures etc for future implementation.

