



Proposed priorities for joint work

Overarching objective:

To ensure that children aged 9-14 years in NSW reach their full potential. This means that all children aged 9-14 years in NSW can develop their physical, intellectual, emotional, social and cultural capabilities. There will be a particular focus those children who often miss out including:

- Aboriginal children;
- children in out-of-home care and who are the subject of care and protection reports or concerns;
- children with disability;
- children from low socio-economic backgrounds;
- children from non-English speaking or culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds;
- children from newly arrived migrant or refugee backgrounds;
- children in the juvenile justice system; and
- children living in rural or remote areas.

Priorities for joint work

That the NSW Commission for Children and Young People work with other agencies to:

1. Build a reform agenda to promote the whole development of children aged 9-14 years. This should be based on research and a shared understanding of the developmental needs of children aged 9-14 years.
2. Ensure that children aged 9-14 years are involved in developing policies and services that are relevant to them. This should include research with children aged 9-14 years on how they spend their time between school and home.
3. Build on existing outside-school initiatives to promote the whole development of children aged 9-14 years.
4. Drive collaboration between in-school and outside-school education and care to promote the whole development of all children aged 9-14 years.
5. Identify and close gaps in access to in-school and outside-school education and care for children who miss out.
6. Identify and support successful models of engagement within schools that will support positive outcomes for children aged 9-14 years and develop their sense of belonging.
7. Identify the specific health needs of children aged 9-14 years and any gaps in services. This should include a focus on mental health, drug prevention and intervention, healthy lifestyle, sexual health and oral health.
8. Develop strategies to ensure appropriate accommodation and support for children under 15 years who are using homelessness services or at risk of homelessness.
9. Review early intervention and prevention programs available to parents and carers of children aged 9-14 years with a view to improving and enhancing family support programs and resources.
10. Develop transport and urban planning strategies that allow children aged 9-14 years to move safely around their communities.