



LODDON
SHIRE

Maternal Child Health in Loddon

*‘Enhancing the sustainability and
liveability for families’*

Brooke Arnold
Early Years Coordinator

Children feeling safe and loved

Children ready to learn

**Children supported to thrive well
physically**



Our Loddon Community



42

Boort
Inglewood
Durham Ox
Korong Vale
Eddington
Wedderburn
Borong
Laanecoorie
Mitiamo
Arnold
Pyramid Hill
Logan
Dingee
Tarnagulla
Bridgewater
Serpentine
Llanelly
Newbridge

What does our maternal child health service look like?

- 60 births per year
- 2 x Maternal Child Health Nurses
- 1 x Enhanced Nurse
- 5 x MCH Centers ~ *Boort, Wedderburn, Inglewood, Dingee and Pyramid Hill*

Current Enhanced Service

- Enhanced service is offered 1 day per week
- We have a dedicated enhanced nurse
- Universal Nurses also undertake enhanced work
- Currently our enhanced position is vacant

Factors
influencing
our health
and wellbeing





STRONG FAMILIES
STRONG **CHILDREN**

LODDON

STRONG FAMILIES, STRONG CHILDREN-LODDON CHARTER

WHAT WE'LL DO

Our Vision

For all children in Loddon Shire to start school ready to learn

Outcomes

- All children arrive at school ready for learning
- All children have a voice and influence
- All children are happy and enjoy healthy lifestyles

Priorities

- Change the way services work so it is easier for families to get what they need
- Resource and support services in partnering with families
- Help children to live in safe, caring and supportive families
- Support children to have the best start in life and be ready for learning
- Improve social, emotional and mental health and wellbeing of children & their parents & carers
- Increase voice, influence and participation of children and families in Early Year's activities
- Improve family knowledge and confidence to access the supports they need - when they need it
- Raise family and community expectations of education

HOW WE'LL DO IT

Earliest Support

We will invest in the early years of children's lives by enabling children, families and the community to break the cycle of disadvantage.

Co-design for Maximum Impact

We will ask families what they need and do our best to provide this in a way that works best for children and families.

Strong Connections and Partnerships

We will develop quality connections, conversations and relations with children, families and services. We will join forces to work on making it easier for families to get the support they need when they need it.

A Flexible & Responsive Model

We will share our resources and expertise to ensure services bend to meet the needs of families. We believe it is our responsibility to change to be there for families and not the other way around.

Stronger Families

We will increase the voice, participation and influence of children and families and always prioritise their wellbeing. Our work and the changes we need to make will be based on what children and their families tell us is needed to make the service system better for local families.

Outcomes Based Accountability

We will measure our progress against our goal of children and their families getting a better deal when it comes to support services and challenge whether anyone is better off.

HOW WE'LL KNOW IF WE'VE MADE A DIFFERENCE

- Maternal Child Health, Kindergarten, Playgroup and School attendance in the early years will improve
- More children will be on track developmentally when they start school. We will measure this against the AEDC*
- More parents and carers will tell us they are feeling confident about knowing what is needed for their children and how to access or provide for this
- More children will be living safely with their families. Fewer children will need statutory intervention by Child Protection Services
- More families will tell us the service system is easy to access



NORTH CENTRAL

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*Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) www.aedc.gov.au

What does this mean for Enhanced in Loddon?



Enhanced Proposal

- A dedicated enhanced nurse 2 days per week.
- Referral processes will remain the same
- Enhanced nurse will complete the family assessment and determine next steps ...

Enhanced Proposal

For families who require more extensive support our enhanced nurse will have the ability to purchase the required services in a 'Fee for Service' arrangement

Benefits

- Families will have access to required services
- Access to support in a timely manner
- Services will be delivered to families locally
- Links families in through our partnership for ongoing services and support
- Continue to strengthen our networks and partnerships for families in Loddon

‘Every child to have the best possible start to life. We want to reduce or eliminate the things that impact their ability to do this and we want our children ready to start school in the best possible position to enhance their ability to learn’

Thank You

