

Using portfolios to track development

As parents we want to know about our child's development and growth and whether they are

to others in the hope that we can see exactly how well our child is learning and growing.

Our Early Learning Centre has taken the success we had in our early years program

As a result of the staff at Years Valley Grammar Early Learning Centre working with families to help them understand their child's development and growth. To help answer these concerns, we are developing a range of documents to discuss and share with parents to inform parents about the child's learning, growth and development during the time they are enrolled at the centre.

As well as each child having their own portfolio, the Centre also has "group reports" which are interactive and written reports that, together with the portfolio, provide families with

The Centre will offer each child a portfolio that is gradually accommodated and enhanced throughout the year. The portfolio will be reviewed with the child and family. The staff understand that each child is unique in regards to their learning and that within each group of children there can be significant age gaps which can influence each child's development. Families at the Centre are therefore encouraged not to compare their child to another, but to see each child as an individual.

The Centre will continue to update the website with more information and news on what their child is doing each day when they are not at home, so the centre also provides information to parents about their children via a digital photo frame and blog. Because the program offered is play-based, these additional methods allows us to show how educational outcomes and learning is occurring.

Our future reports of the year will provide more information for the team to use as a guide in planning what's next for the child.

Feedback from past and present families shows the value and worth they place in their child's learning and how they can help in helping them to understand what their child is learning and doing.

Melbourne's Child, Feb 2016
Mrs Nicky Collier,
Early Learning Centre Director