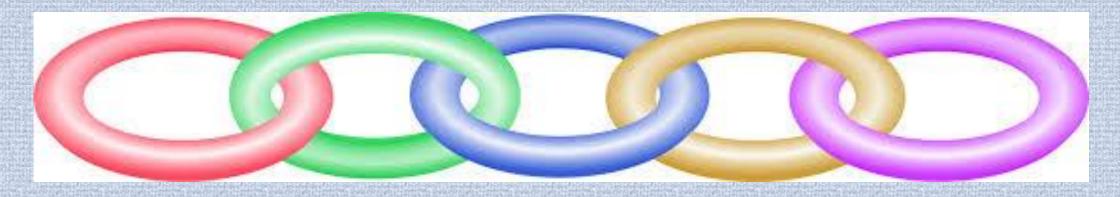
Educational Leadership team



Educational Leadership is a context thing! At Mitchelton Pre-Schooling Centre we tweaked the model to build a more effective process, culture and staff team.













TIME LINE

2014
Dabble with
Action
Research

2014 Four teachers attend Melbourne ECA conference

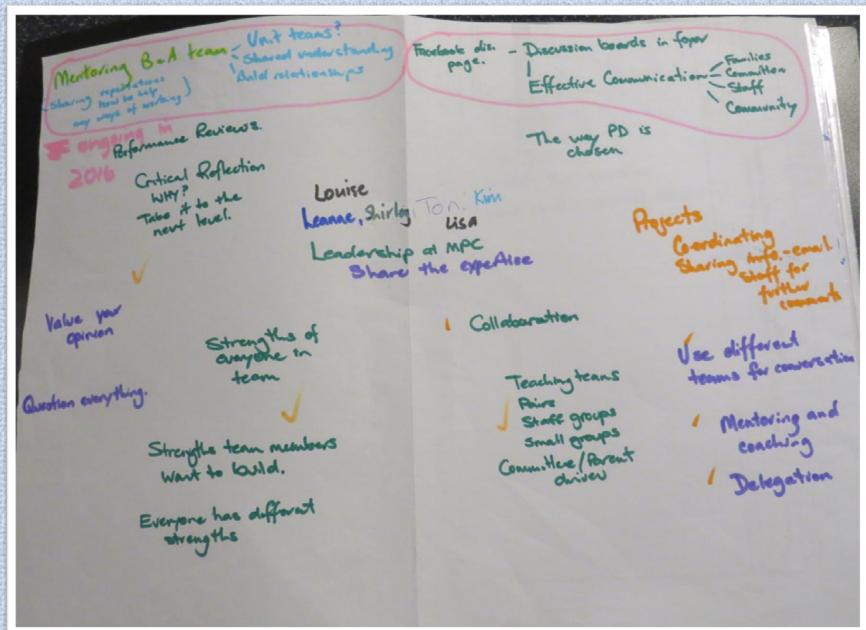
2015
Investigate
new
Educational
Leadership
team model:
Action
Research

2015 Team Educational Leadership team model developed.

Received Gowrie Award.

2012 One Educational Leader

ACTION RESEARCH



Key Roles of Educational Leadership Team

The educational leadership team promotes the shared expertise of the whole staff team. As such, they encourage all voices to be heard. The role of the co-ordinating team includes:

- Coaching and Mentoring Oversee the mentoring and professional development program.
- Leading projects Oversee the ongoing action research projects.
- Sharing and co-ordinating information. Organise events for children, parents, staff and the wider community to promote early childhood education.



PROTOCOLS FOR CONVERSATIONS

- Allow ideas to be set down beside each other.
- Listening to different ideas broadens perspective.
- Be mindful of phrasing thoughts positively (note successes, what we are doing well as well as possible improvements).
- Everyone's voice is respected all are encouraged to speak.
- Identify what makes this a safe place for everybody to speak...
 - Everybody is at different places in thinking and that's ok
 - There is no malice
 - No question is a stupid one.
- We are curious to think and challenge assumptions.

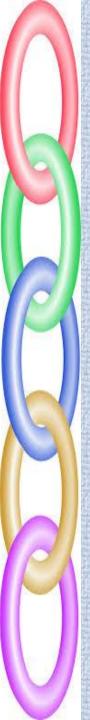




"Great leaders are also leading learners. If leaders don't learn, then the learning in the organizations that they lead is not likely to flourish."

(Sahlberg in Educational Leader p. xi)

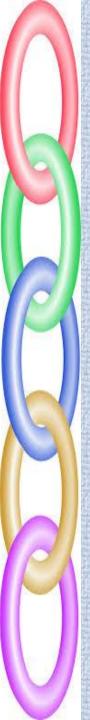




Shared understandings of the Educational Leadership team

Highly valued key dispositions including:

- Growth mindset (both personal and professional)
- Flexibility
- Ethical decision-making
- Kindness in leadership
- Willingness to share
- o Dream big.



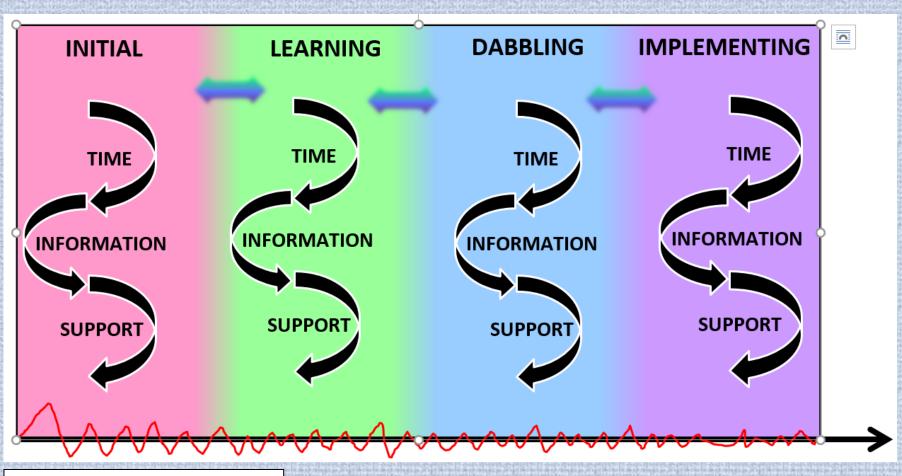
Considerations for supporting Shared understandings



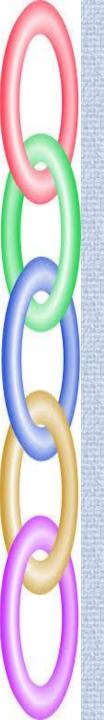
- Time is afforded for sharing perspectives, language and understandings on the 'big issues'.
- We delight in different teaching styles which fit within the shared MPC vision.
- We clarity and differentiation in roles and responsibilities of the Educational Leadership Team and Nominated Supervisor.
- We enact conversation protocols.

Respectful relationships are key!

Organisational Culture developed with time, Information, support



EXECUTIVE FUNCTION PROJECT: PHASES



The Educational Leadership team journey continues: Practical considerations

- Allocation of time for conversations and fun.
- Acceptance that change takes time.
- Affording time for groups to review professional learning goals and attend professional development together.
- Prioritising time to celebrate successes.

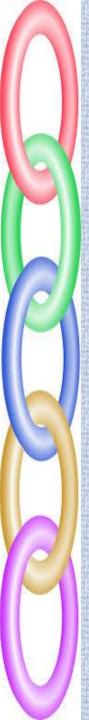




The Educational Leadership team journey continues: More practical considerations

Clarity for roles and responsibilities, participation and actions through:

- Shared review of vision and philosophy.
- **Shared** decisions for Educational Leadership team meeting agenda items.
- Shared facilitation by Educational Leadership team for allocated whole staff Professional Development sessions.
- Collaboratively developed statements to support shared understandings for the whole staff team:
 - o Risk
 - Digital Technology
 - Mentoring
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander understandings.



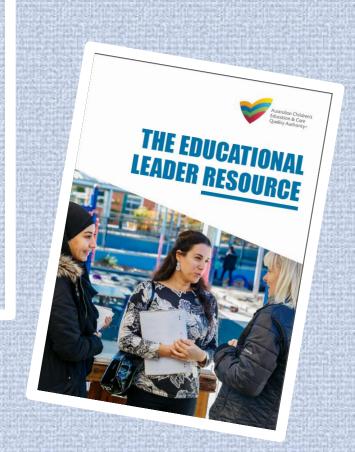
The Educational Leadership team journey continues: More practical considerations

Infrastructure:

- Mentoring program.
- Shared elibrary and various group combination emails.

Tools:

- Ethical decision-making cycle.
- Formats to support defining goals for personal and professional learning.
- Formats to support Critical Reflection.
- ACECQA The Educational Leader Resource.



Impact of the Educational Leadership team model

- Increased teacher and educator involvement, sense of belonging, agency, confidence, willingness to take a risk, ownership.
- Increased individual and team resilience.
- View of ourselves as a rich community of learners.
- Sharing of thinking and possibilities enabling greater growth individually and collectively, increasing positive outcomes for children and families.
- Increased well-being.

And finally...

What has your heart singing and dreaming with new hope for your work?

What muscles do you want to develop toward bringing that to life?

What process could you put in place to ensure each decision you make amplifies, rather than diminishes your vision?

(Pelo and Carter)







References

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