

## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION AIC 2016: #80

**1. Title:**

Implementing Evidence Informed Practice at Scale

**2. Author(s):**

Heather Finlayson, General Manager Capability and Early Learning Strategy

**3. Key words:**

Implementation, evidence informed practice (EIP) , early learning centres, scale

**4. Abstract text:**

As a provider of care and education to 71,500 children attending 643 early learning centres across Australia, Goodstart Early Learning has a responsibility to achieve full and effective implementation of quality evidence informed practice (EIP) at scale.

To ensure sustainable improvements in centre based practice Goodstart has taken an integrated approach to bridge the research to practice gap (Fixen et al 2005; Antcliff, et al. 2014) that allows for the unique context and eco system of each centre, addresses educator competence as well as systemic and organisational issues. Methods used to implement evidence informed practice across this national network draw on strategies, theories and frameworks from disciplined innovation, knowledge translation and exchange (Grimshaw et al, 2012; Lavis et al, 2003 ) and implementation science ( Fixsen et. al 2005; Metz, A., 2015).

This paper will describe the practice transformation undertaken at Goodstart Early Learning to increase the use of EIP. Key components of this work include:

- Co-design of the Goodstart Practice guide
- A phased and adaptive approach to implementation that empowers local centre leadership
- The design and implementation of an organisational capacity building program
- The development of a research and evaluation strategy

Results from the initial trail of the practice guide and early implementation activities will be presented including key factors for success at a practitioner, centre and organizational level, adaptations to our strategy along the way, and the next steps in the transformation process including the co-design of a Goodstart Outcomes Framework.