

HIPPY: the most effective way to provide early childhood learning in the home.

With funding from the Federal Department of Social Services (DSS), the Brotherhood of St Laurence delivers the Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters (HIPPY) as an early learning and parenting program targeting young children and their families living in disadvantage. With the support of tutors, parents conduct weekly early learning activities at home with children aged 4 and 5.

HIPPY provides significant economic and social returns to the Commonwealth and across the community.

Delivering great outcomes for children, parents and jobs

The 2020 HIPPY Longitudinal Study and HIPPY Tutors Study represent the largest academic research studies conducted into the effectiveness and efficacy of the HIPPY program in Australia. These studies found significant improvements for:



Children

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- School Readiness



Parents

- Increased confidence with parenting
- Increased time spent learning with child
- Learning normalised in everyday situations



Tutors

- Job Training and Development
- Future Employment Pathway
- 98% women / 40% Indigenous



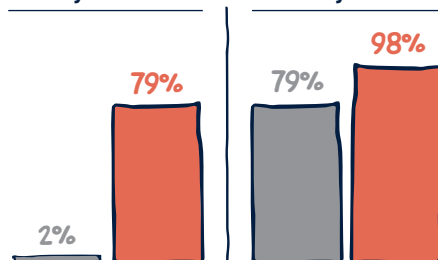
Children

HIPPY helps families overcome the impact of disadvantage and poverty on children's school readiness

LITERACY AND NUMERACY

Children participating in HIPPY demonstrate statistically significant improvements in literacy and numeracy skills. By program's end, their average scores slightly exceed the Australian mean, changing their trajectory and putting them on comparable footing with their peers.

Literacy

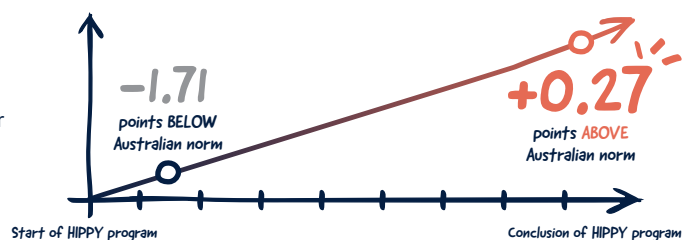


% of children performing above 50% before and after completing HIPPY

Results also show indicative positive gains amongst Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) students regarding abstract learning. By 2023, BSL's 2-year study exploring HIPPY in ATSI communities will have more definitive findings

HIPPY Children's Literacy and Numeracy Skills Over Time

"Who Am I?" Assessment (score out of 44)



SCHOOL READINESS



Parents report HIPPY improves their child's school readiness and love of learning.

School Readiness

90%

of parents believe HIPPY improves their children's school readiness

Love of Learning

93%

of parents report overwhelming enjoyment of HIPPY by their children

Citation: Connolly, J & Mallett, S 2020, Changing children's trajectories: results of the HIPPY Longitudinal Study; Connolly, J & Chaitowitz, R 2020, Transforming employment aspirations: results of the HIPPY Tutors Study.



Parents

HIPPY provides parents with the tools, knowledge and confidence to take responsibility for their children's learning at home

HIPPY parents learn how to help their children learn effectively in the home, supported by home tutors that are parents in the program too. By program's end, HIPPY parents are more engaged with their children's active learning and education.



is the average time per week spent on HIPPY learning activities

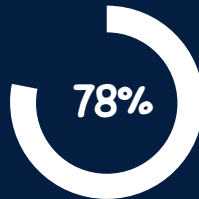


of parents read to their children 5-7 days per week

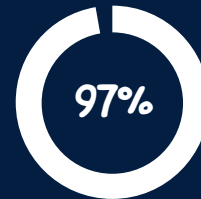


more parents did literacy and numeracy work with their child

These improvements culminate in the adoption of "everywhere learning" strategies: where parents normalise learning opportunities in every day situations.



Using everywhere learning "often or almost always" by the end of HIPPY.



Engaged with everywhere learning at least some of the time.



Tutors

HIPPY tutoring provides jobs for women and Indigenous parents, increasing their confidence and competitiveness in future employment opportunities

Parents who participate in the HIPPY program have the opportunity to become HIPPY tutors, providing 1:1 support to other parents to build their skills and confidence to take responsibility for their children's learning. The 400+ yearly tutor positions (40% Indigenous and 98% held by women) provide paid employment and improve tutor's confidence to secure local jobs post HIPPY.



20% of parents become tutors because they 'want a job'

Start of HIPPY program

65% of parents intend to quickly seek other paid employment post-HIPPY

Conclusion of HIPPY program



98% of tutors are women



40% of tutors are Indigenous



400+ tutor jobs provided annually



95% of tutors agreed the HIPPY program improves job readiness and skills



92% of tutors report improved confidence at program's end

These findings demonstrate HIPPY's significant return on public investment, generating strong outcomes for each dollar in Federal funding. Across employment and jobs, school readiness for kids, and engagement for participating parents, HIPPY delivers for children, for parents, and for the community.

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The Brotherhood of St. Laurence acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land and waterways on which our organisation operates. We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders past, present and emerging.

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