



Priority 3

Families are happy, healthy and well

Children and families thrive when they feel more connected to their community and when they are also provided with easy access to high-quality local services.

THIS IS WHAT WE HEARD

We heard there is great community spirit in Frankston North and families are eager for opportunities to connect with each other socially. Adult education, job opportunities and employment pathways are high priorities for families in Frankston North.

Parents and carers in the Frankston North community are finding it hard to get support for their health and wellbeing.

A high demand for services is not currently being met by provider, however services told us they are interested in working together so that families can access the support they need more easily. The lack of mental health support services was also a concern for families in Frankston North.

THIS IS WHAT WE WILL DO

- Create an environment where parents feel welcome onsite and are connected to both the schools and the support they need.
- Support providers to deliver services locally and provide families with referrals and information that will help them to access the services more easily.
- Work with organisations to deliver opportunities for parents and carers to meet others and learn new skills.



How to get involved?

Our Place believes that community collaboration is vital to developing a shared approach for improving outcomes for children. We will continue to listen and engage with the community as it helps us know what is working and where further effort is needed.



Our Place Frankston North has offices at Aldercourt Primary and Mahogany Rise Primary



If you would like to contribute, have any questions or want to know more you can visit us in person or contact:

Sharon Wright

Our Place Partnership Manager

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Our Place Community Facilitator at frankstonnorth@ourplace.org.au



You can also visit the Our Place Frankston North Facebook page at facebook.com/OurPlaceFrankstonNorth



Our Place welcomes all families and children. We acknowledge the First Nations people of Australia and Traditional Custodians of the lands that we live and work on. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.



Connecting the Frankston North Community



Our Place Frankston North

Our Place supports the education, health and development of children and families in the Frankston North community. We listen to and respond to the needs of the local community. We help schools to be the central place for life-long learning and support services. We connect people and services through the local schools and early years providers to improve outcomes for children. Our Place has a 10-year commitment to the Frankston North community.

OUR PLACE FRANKSTON NORTH VISION

Every child and their family is successful in life.

We achieve this by focusing on:

- Facilitating early learning opportunities, playgroups, children's health care and support for parents and carers.
- Creating school environments where children get the support they need to thrive.
- Creating ways for children and families to be involved in the Frankston North community by taking part in activities.
- Assisting children and families to access health and wellbeing support services they need.
- Providing opportunities for parents and carers to take part in learning, volunteering and links to job pathways.

WHO WE ARE WORKING WITH

Working alongside the Frankston North Education Plan, Our Place works with key partner organisations to support children and families in the Frankston North community.

We also work with many other local organisations to provide assistance or services onsite or nearby.

Our partners are:

- Aldercourt Primary School
- Mahogany Rise Primary School
- Monterey Secondary College
- Frankston City Council
- Community Kinders Plus
- Department of Education and Training

TALKING TO THE FRANKSTON NORTH COMMUNITY

Our Place has consulted and listened to local parents, carers and community organisations during the past year.

We want to understand the community and how children are engaging in early years services and schools.

Statistical information about the community, school and early years services was also collected from a range of sources. The following priorities are based on the findings from these consultations.

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Our Place's vision is that all children and their families succeed in life.

Children in the Frankston North community are supported to grow up healthy and happy

The most important learning and development period for children is between the ages of 0 to 6. This is when children need the greatest support. Picking up any health or development issues early can have life-long benefits. Having access to health and wellbeing services throughout their school years is important so children can get the most out of their education.

THIS IS WHAT WE HEARD

More support is needed for children in Frankston North to grow up healthy and happy. Service providers told us that early development concerns for children are being missed or picked up too late.

This means that many children are not getting the help they need early enough in life. Service providers also told us that they are struggling to meet the level of demand for their services, and that there needs to be a strong focus on supporting mental health for children and youth.

Parents and carers told us they find it hard to access health and wellbeing information and services for school-aged children and children with additional needs.

THIS IS WHAT WE WILL DO

- Help families to feel supported in understanding their child's development, from pregnancy through to starting school. We will do this by helping families to access local early learning and health services.
- Work with families to provide information and warm referrals to the services they need.
- Work with the Frankston North schools and health and wellbeing services, so families and their children can easily access support during their primary school and secondary school years.



Priority 2

Students are engaged and connected to learning

Learning and social opportunities throughout childhood help children achieve as learners. Early learning and development, high-quality schooling and after-school enrichment activities help ensure that children are on the right path to success in all areas of life.

THIS IS WHAT WE HEARD

We heard that children are not engaging in early learning opportunities, such as long day-care and kindergarten, before starting school.

High attendance and engagement in learning has been difficult to achieve in Frankston North. There is an opportunity to build greater connections and sense of community via local schools.

We also know that many young people are leaving school earlier and are not going onto TAFE, apprenticeships or finding employment.

THIS IS WHAT WE WILL DO

- Support a range of early learning activities and opportunities for families and their children.
- Support the community in Frankston North to build greater connection with the schools and learning opportunities on offer.
- Support student aspirations, encouraging children and families to have hopes and dreams for their future.
- Partner with local clubs and organisations to increase access to out of hours activities for children.