Yarning with Families

This package has been co-developed by

Playgroup Queensland
Deadly Ears Program
families as first teachers

We would like to acknowledge the staff from these organisations, and the families that they work with, for their contributions to this resource.
4. Yarning with families

Playgroup Facilitators have a unique role in engaging and supporting families in their community. By creating a safe space and building connections with families, facilitators can make opportunities to discuss child health and development as well as connecting families with other services.

Yarning with families about their child’s health is not always easy. These tips and resources are designed to help you build trust, empower families, create opportunities to talk about ears and hearing health and link families with local health services.

Tips from a fellow facilitator

- “First you’ve got to find a common ground with parents”
- “They need to know this is a safe place”
- “Let them know you’re happy to help”
- “You can speak up because of your professional role”
- “If you have experience (with ear disease), you can step out of your comfort zone”

Ideas for yarning with families:

- Talk to parents if you have concerns about their child’s ears
- Use Yarning Circle Talking Points resources
- Invite parents to approach you if they’re worried
- Provide brochures for more information, (Care for Kids Ears Website)
- Invite a Child Health Nurse to talk about ears