

**CHC08 Community Services  
Training Package**

**CHCIC302A**  
**Support Aboriginal and/or  
Torres Strait Islander families to  
participate in children's  
services**

**Learner guide**

**Version 1**

**Training and Education Support  
Industry Skills Unit  
Meadowbank**



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SAMPLE

## Section 1: Identifying own culture

### ***Element and performance criteria:***

#### **1. Identify influence of own cultural identity on interactions with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people and communities.**

- 1.1. Identify significant events in own family history which may influence own current beliefs and values
- 1.2. Identify aspects of the environment which influence own cultural identity
- 1.3. Examine aspects of family history and personal cultural identity for impact on personal values and potential impact on interactions with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children and families

#### **2. Support the cultural identity of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children and families.**

- 3.1. Identify and consult with appropriate persons to obtain knowledge of local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander groups
- 3.2. Obtain knowledge about the cultural identity of any Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children and families currently involved in or receiving services from the children's services organisation
- 3.3. Process information in a culturally sensitive way including identification of how and with whom information can be shared
- 3.4. Provide opportunities for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children and families to share context and cultural knowledge
- 3.5. Provide opportunities for children and families to enhance their experience of cultural diversity
- 3.6. Demonstrate respect for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander languages in the workplace context

At the end of this section you should be able to:

- Identify significant events in own family history which may influence own current beliefs and values
- Identify environment which influences own cultural identity.
- Describe or examine aspects of own family history and personal cultural identity for impact on personal values and potential impact on interactions with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children and families.
- Identify and consult with appropriate persons to obtain knowledge of local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander groups.

- Obtain knowledge about the cultural identity of any Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children and families currently involved in or receiving services from the children's services organisation.

### **Topic overview**

This learning topic requires you to:

- read the suggested text or resource
- respond to a scenario or case study
- write a response
- reflect about ideas and information.

### **Getting started**

Before you begin make sure you have the following resources. You will also need to arrange the following:

- Access to Internet.
- Spend some time with your teacher or facilitator working through and discussing activities preferably with other learners.
- Your imagination and empathy skills.
- Self reflective Skills
- Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, 2008. Apology Speech to the Stolen Generation.

## Cultural Identity

Cultural identity is a distinctive human trait, recognising and relating to features of your physical and social environment. It is what you know and feel, part of your upbringing, your family, beliefs, values and attitudes. It can be hard to define, it is different for everyone.

Your culture embodies those things in your life that make you and your family unique. You live your culture through your daily routines, rituals and how you interact with the world. 'Your culture', for you is safe, it can be forever changing yet for others they will have a totally different perspective on you and how you function within the community. Your 'family culture' gives you the sense of who you are and where you belong, be it positive or negative.

Locke (1992, cited Dau, 2001) suggests:

*All individuals are, in some respects, like other individuals, as a result of cultural group membership. The cultural group serves as a basis for individual to become humanised. Each individual becomes fully human through the process of participation in a cultural group or groups.*

Australian culture and society have changed dramatically in the second half of the nineteenth century. Influences on our culture are a result of an ever changing population and the acceptance of other varied ethnic groups.

**Culture** is a way of life. It is the way we think, how we interact and the goods we produce. It is expressed through our values, expectations, beliefs and language. It is internalised from birth, mainly through the family, but also through the media and your schooling years.

**Values** are the judgments we make about what are important in our lives. They are standards. Family culture and values are inextricably linked.

## Activity 1.1



Write a response

Think about what you say to a new person when you meet them. What is the important information you tell people, about who you are, your family or where you are from?

You might like to think about these possible conversation starters:

- Do you tell them your name?
- Where you live?
- What you do for a living?
- What school or study you are doing?
- Your nationality?
- 

Does this change if you meet someone from another country?

What extra information or how does the information change when you are introducing yourself?

Think about your nationality, family culture and social networks.

- Nationality
- Birthplace and Birth Order
- Family values and obligations
- Expectations
- Beliefs
- Families use of language