The value of completing the AEDC for teachers

**Beginning to explore the data:**

*Dr Mary Lincoln, Director, Early Learning Pathways Early Childhood and Community Engagement. Department of Education and training*

*Every three years, teachers of children in their first full time year of schooling take time to reflect on each child's learning and development and complete a census, which is called the Australian Early Development Census.*

*That census starts in May of the year that the children start school in their prep year. That gives the teacher time to get to know the child, each child, their capabilities, their strengths, and to be able to complete that census.*

**The AEDC assists educators in considering the holistic development of the child**

*Lina Vella, Transition and Partnerships officer. Central QLD region. Prep teacher 2008-2014*

*As a prep teacher filling in the AEDC data really allowed me to think about each individual learner within the classroom, which in turn, really helped me deliver the Australian curriculum in a very age-appropriate way. Reflecting on the learning style of that child, their background, the context they've come from, and that just really enriched the delivery of the curriculum and made me aware of using a balance and a range of a pedagogical approaches for those individual children.*

*Chloe Black, Classroom teacher at Clontarf Beach State School*

*As teachers, emphasis is so often put on literacy and numeracy development. Having analysed the data, I'm able to reflect holistically on the child and incorporate programmes best suited to their needs.*

*Having the time to reflect on the AEDC Data specific to our site, gave me the opportunity to thoroughly understand the prior experiences children have had before entering our school.*

**Training is provided for teachers to support them in completing the AEDC**

*Dr Mary Lincoln, Director, Early Learning Pathways Early Childhood and Community Engagement. Department of Education and training*

*To support teachers to complete the census, we provide a teacher guide and online information.*

*We provide for each school a guide to completing the collection and also there's some online trainings. we encourage teachers to undertake that training and to use the guide to support them in responding to the questions for each child.*

*Lina Vella, Transition and Partnerships officer. Central QLD region. Prep teacher 2008-2014*

*The training package that arrived at the school allowed us as prep teachers to come together really discuss how we were going to gather that data, what was important in terms of collecting the data, and how the school was going to support us with collecting that data.*

*So when we went to fill in the census we were really mindful of what each other's perspectives were, and filling in that data accurately, to really portray what was happening, and what we knew about the children that were in our class rooms.*

*Dr Mary Lincoln, Director, Early Learning Pathways Early Childhood and Community Engagement. Department of Education and training*

*Undertaking the training not only helps teachers to be better prepared to complete the census but it ensures we have a reliable set of data, quality information that schools, communities, and governments can use to support their planning.*

To find out more about the AEDC and how it can support your teaching visit the [Queensland Government Department of Education and Training’s website](http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/aedcqueensland/)