



Middle Years Forum Feedback

What did you like most about the forum?

It was thought-provoking
So much to think about
The data I never heard or thought about before
the presentations including the PowerPoints kept interest high
Opportunities to place Middle years on the agenda
Starting to gather evidence/data
Introduction to ARACY

The speakers x 19

The speakers were great x 4
All the speakers were fantastic
The high quality of speakers x 2
A great range of engaging presenters - very enjoyable to listen to such expertise
Excellent, well informed speakers talking on a very relevant topic
Very interesting guest speakers thought-provoking
Great speakers covering a range of ideas but who also worked well together
The diversity/variety of the speakers x 4
George Patton

The presentations x 7

The presentations, they were all very engaging and informative
Informative sessions by presenters
The quality of the presentations
The variety of the presentations
The diversity of topics
Debbie Noble-Carr's presentation very graphic
Enjoyed children's loss and grief topic

The information/content x 4

The knowledge held by guest speakers was incredible
Very informative and engaging
The breadth of material
The diverse knowledge presented
Great stimulating input from a variety of speakers
Speakers material very useful to my work

Hearing about data on Middle years

Data available presented

Hearing about research or lack thereof in the middle years

Information on research and also confirmation of the importance of social and emotional learning for children in this age group to improve life trajectory

Awareness of gaps in understanding

Exposure to relevant research

The Panel & discussion

The discussion panel x 4

It was great to have dedicated time for questions with all presenters Q&A style

Starting discussions about issues that have been neglected

Hearing about issues Middle Years face in particular the panel discussion at the end highlighting prevention and mental health during the middle years

The discussion

The rich discussions that followed the presentations

The participants

Different opinions & frames of thought

The variety of people represented

The breadth of knowledge and range of participants in the room

The diversity of participants

Meeting with people from a range of organisations

The opportunity to network

Meeting other professionals working in government, community and academia

It was fantastic to see attendance by a wide range of agencies and departments and to see a high level of interest in working together to address the gaps in the middle years

The cross-section of participants in the audience who were exposed to the same information at the same time

The food x 3

Lunch was great

The venue x 3

Great location

What did you like least about the forum?

Nothing x 20

All very good

It was flawless

The airconditioning x3

Venue a bit cramped x 2

Sometimes difficult to see the speakers/slides with seating

Too many stats x 2

A bit too many stats without a break

The panel and questions

The panel was a bit hard to follow at times

Lack of opportunity to pose a written question to the panel members to consider and speak to colleagues

Not long enough to go into more depth

Too many breaks

Would like a concrete way forward (best practice) to support health/well-being of young people – aware of data gap

Not enough focus on solutions to the problems and what we can do to improve outcomes for children

Lack of talk about "families" in relation to middle years

Slides not made available on Wi-Fi

Predominance of adolescent data in the first talk

Buzzing radio at beginning of forum

Lack of local content for ACT

Would have been good to see more of the gender balance for future speakers

Are there other issues from the day you would like more information about?

No x 23

Slides from the presentations x 3

A list of links to the studies mentioned and other relevant information x 4

Could an overview of content be e-mailed to participants so that we can reflect on it in more detail?

Links to specific research projects for all presenters

Clearinghouse for all the research and publications discussed (happy to assist if we can – CSD)

Stats and information on grief and loss would be great

Ongoing developments of this topic

I would like to research to continue and to be shared so that we can continue with our work, using an evidence-based approach

How we – as case managers/family support workers – can better assist children in this age group

Services for families in the middle years

Like to know more about intervention in the middle years

Practical helpful models of engaging 8 to 15-year-olds

Actual strategies/solutions (practical) for addressing issues in the 8 to 12 years age group (mostly got information on the issues)

Working with children who have experienced loss

It's up to us to develop networks and strengthen our "consultancy" skills with young people

Collaboration across agencies – shared strategic directions and room to share KPIs and funding in absence of data and best evidence of what is best practice

Perhaps could approach Capital Health Network to talk to primary health providers

Communicating with children in the middle years effectively

I think that there needs to be more in this space - more information/evidence about the importance of the middle years will help drive change and services for young people

Progress - where to go from here? how can we fix the problems? or how can they be treated?

Role of fathers in the middle years

Are there any unrelated issues that you would like to see as the subject of a future forum?

No x 24

Expansion of youth services to fix 8 to 11-year-olds rather than age specific services – why is this a bad idea and what should we do instead?

Engaging parents when working with young people

Adolescent health - how to bridge barriers and improve outcomes

Child and youth mental health and how to deal with it beyond treatment – not unrelated but a crucially important issue

I'm really interested in the transition phase – I'm sure there is scope to go a bit deeper and more practical here

What is the end goal of agencies/services and how does their intervention affect children's outcomes

Working with victims of sexual abuse – young people/children

Domestic violence and families in the ACT

Social and emotional learning

Future forums that consider a broader cross-section of experts who could present across education/health/academia/community as each area brings a different perspective

Putting the research and data into practice

A future forum of working with groups in the ACT to showcase what is working well in our work

More cross sector work on specific subjects (CSD)

Practical cross sector programs - look for some answers, not just questions

Other Comments

Everything fascinating

Thank you it was a great day x 4

A great forum – thank you Will and Karen

Very well organized x 3

Very well executed

It would be great to have a list of the attendees