## Our Vision
To become a centre of excellence in child & youth development and education research that is nationally recognised as a reliable source of high-quality, independent evidence that informs, influences and evaluates current policy and practice and plays a catalytic role in enabling academia, the community and services bring about real improvements in children’s lives.

## Our Purpose
To conduct collaborative research which builds scientific, policy and public understanding of how the development, protection, wellbeing and education of Australian children – and particularly Indigenous children - can be improved to advance population health and community wellbeing

## Our Core Business
- Engaging with communities, governments, service providers and other stakeholders to set research priorities and ensure ongoing collaborations.
- Conducting high-quality applied science in child and youth development, child protection, education & family research
- Disseminating and translating research findings into policy, practice & community action
- Helping build research capacity in all services for children, young people and their families
- Providing evidence-informed policy advice to government & non-government agencies
- Disseminating information for communities, families, services and researchers

## Strategic Goal
Quality research and programs

### Key Strategies
- Advocate and support the implementation of evidence-based practice and best-practice evaluation to improve child health and development, school readiness, educational pedagogy, school practice, parenting, family support and management of child maltreatment
- Ensure researchers are intellectually supported through opportunities for professional development and knowledge sharing with other researchers and centre's with specialist expertise and knowledge in key areas (e.g. experience-based brain development, NHMRC Clinical Trials Unit)
- Develop processes to maximize synergies across the broad range of research activities and outputs of the Centre (e.g. through sharing data management systems, research and analytic methodologies & measures)
- Encourage and support researcher productivity and scientific output in highly rated peer reviewed journals, input to government reports and communication of research findings to the general public

### Outcomes
- High quality scientific publications and communication outputs
- Consistent and efficient use of measures, research methodologies and data systems
- High organizational priorities are placed on skills transfer, mentoring and professional development
- Ethical and culturally responsive research methodologies and programs are developed and maintained
- An organizational culture of research and evidence-based practice is established within health, family and education services through the collaborative development, implementation and systematic evaluation of practices and programs

## Research capacity and sustainability

### Key Strategies
- Identify the capacity, capabilities, technology and other resources needed to support the Centre’s research goals and programs
- Review the Centre’s governance and organizational structure to ensure role clarity and appropriateness of research & administrative support
- Deliver an active program of Post Graduate Research Training
- Provide research training and capacity building for Indigenous researchers and support staff both within the Centre and in Indigenous communities
- Convene research forums to promote learning and sharing of knowledge about recent advances in child development and education research
- Develop and establish a diverse and self-sustainable funding framework

### Outcomes
- Excellent administrative and research support is available
- Research workforce is well developed and supported
- Relative security of employment is realized
- Efficient quality assurance processes are in place
- Cultural safety and cultural responsiveness is prioritized
- Indigenous research workforce is increased both within the Centre and in Indigenous communities
- High quality PhD students are attracted and being supervised
- Excellent Higher Degree completion rates are achieved
- The Centre is self-sustaining through its success in securing competitive and contract research funding

## Relationships and strategic partnerships

### Key Strategies
- Give prime importance to establishing strategic partnerships, scientific networks & dialogue with key government & non-government agencies and building enduring beneficial relationships with NT communities
- Establish scientific collaborations with other relevant research, education and service agencies – particularly across Northern Australia
- Develop other national and international scientific networks to support, inform and extend the Centre’s program of work

### Outcomes
- Increased community involvement in the planning, implementation and support of evidence based programs
- Research partners receive regular feedback and key milestones are acknowledged and celebrated
- Deeper understanding of NT/National stakeholder needs and collaborative projects undertaken nationally
- International collaborations are established in the NT region.

## Establishing Identity

### Key Strategies
- Launch the Centre and promote understanding of its purpose and mission
- Develop the Centre’s identity as a national leader in child development, education, child protection and family research with a particular focus on Indigenous children, families, schools and communities
- Implement a pro-active communication strategy including a website, publications and other means of dissemination such as hosting and coordinating relevant symposiums and conferences

### Outcomes
- The Centre has a national profile as a leader in child development, education, child protection, parenting, family support, early learning and Indigenous education
- The Centre is a preferred provider for CCD&E research
- Papers are delivered at a high proportion of national and international conferences
- A website and dynamic internet presence is established

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<th>Cultural responsiveness</th>
<th>Scientific rigour</th>
<th>Ethical practice</th>
<th>Innovation</th>
<th>Relevance</th>
<th>Valuing people</th>
<th>Communication</th>
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