

# Linking Schools and Early Years

## Evaluation summary

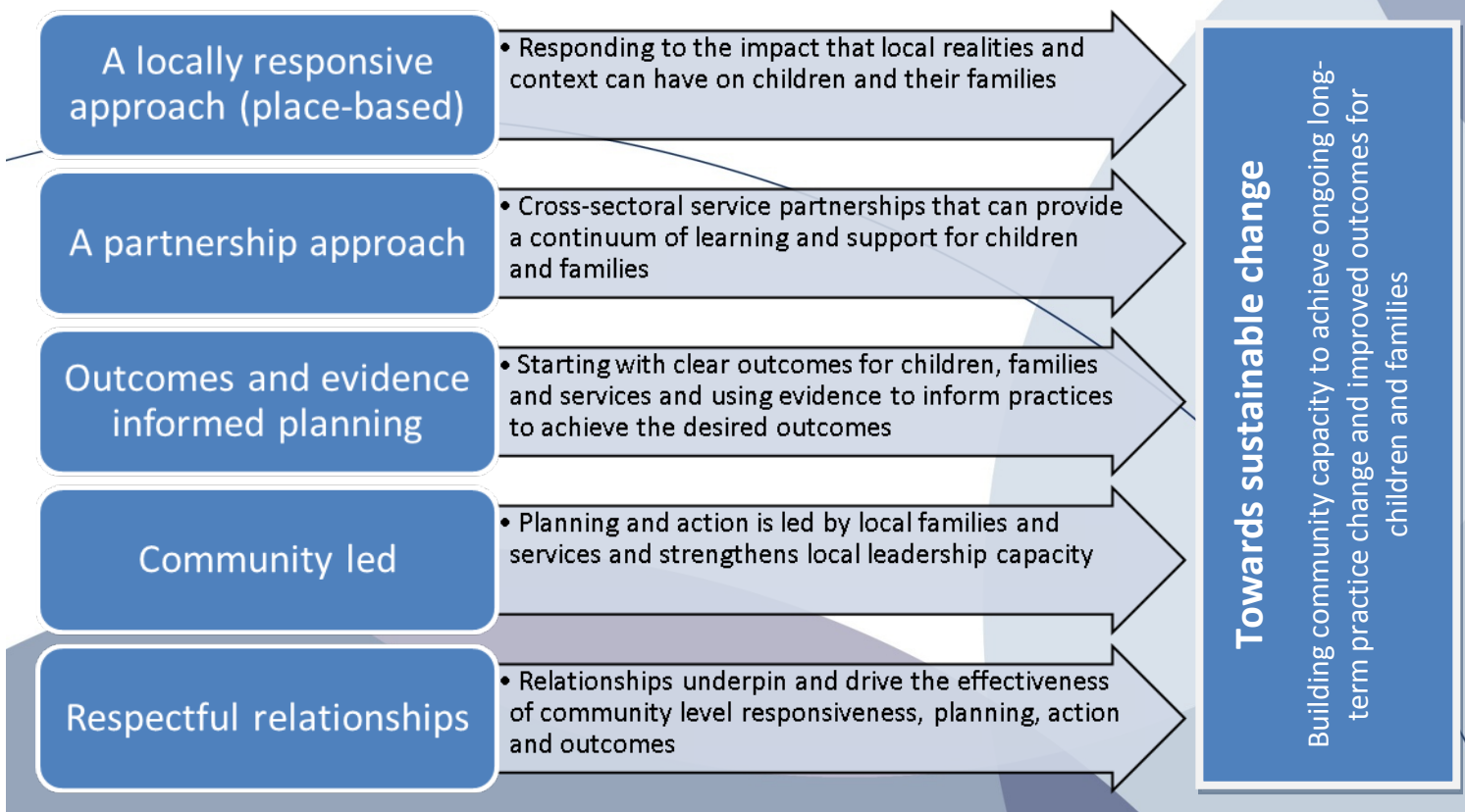
An important element of the Linking Schools and Early Years (LSEY) project is the external evaluation. The evaluation enables LSEY to contribute to Australian research evidence around ways to promote support so children arrive at school ready to engage in the opportunities offered in their new learning environment.

The evaluation has identified practice principles and key ingredients that relate to what and how communities have implemented LSEY and aims to provide a summary of the LSEY evaluation findings from data collection in 2008 (baseline), 2010, 2011 and 2012. For more information about the LSEY project and full evaluation reports see [www.rch.org.au/lsey](http://www.rch.org.au/lsey).

### Core components

The evaluation has indicated that what communities do (the activities) is important, but it's how they do it (the approach) which really makes the difference. The evaluation identified core components which were consistently evident in the planning and implementation of the LSEY approach and local activities.

These are considered imperative in creating service/school and systemic change.



## Summary of the LSEY external evaluation – outcomes, practice principles, key ingredients, activities and findings

The evaluation found that the identified core components that drive the effectiveness of the project activities. The graphic below is a snapshot of the evaluation findings around each project outcome and some example activities. Changes identified through the evaluation are an indication of how practice change between early years services, schools and communities can contribute to 'children arriving at school ready to engage in the learning opportunities offered'.

