**Koolkan Aurukun State School: *Creating safe, supportive and inclusive environments that enhance engagement***

Transcript

Koolkan Aurukun State School’s work to enhance student engagement and nurture social, emotional and physical wellbeing has demonstrated positive outcomes for their students.

Through the school’s *Family Champions initiative*, each child or young person identified for support is allocated a Family Champion who helps connect the school and family, and provide support strategies that lead to improved engagement and experiences.

The initiative is grounded in strengths-based methods that acknowledge the resources that exist within family and community. The Family Champion initiative is a powerful way of strengthening and deepening community partnerships and privileging understanding and respect.

Family Champions are community members endorsed by the family. They have been instrumental in linking families and schools to referral agencies, getting students back to school, and helping families engage in school life.

The capacity of families and school staff to engage with each other in culturally meaningful and safe ways has been enhanced by the role of the Family Champions.