

## Errata

**ISBN:** 978 1 76059 921 8

**Unit:** CHCECE001 Develop cultural competence

**Resource:** LG Split

**Update:** Version 2.1 updated to Version 2.2

**Affected pages:** Page 7

Use the attached pages to update the affected document.

In **1788**, the first European settlers arrived in Botany Bay, New South Wales in **11 ships carrying around 1,500 convicts and marines**. By 1868, around 162,000 European convicts had settled in Australia.

**Replaces:**

In **1778**, the first European settlers arrived in Botany Bay, New South Wales in **806 ships carrying 162,000 convicts and marines**.

# 1B Understand cultural competence

To appreciate the need for cultural competence, it is necessary to understand Australia's history of migration. The first human population in Australia was made up of Aboriginal people, who arrived in Australia around 60,000 years ago via India, Malaysia, Borneo and Papua New Guinea.

In 1788, the first European settlers arrived in Botany Bay, New South Wales in 11 ships carrying around 1,500 convicts and marines. By 1868, around 162,000 European convicts had settled in Australia.

Today, Australia recognises the importance of multicultural immigration. People from any country who meet immigration laws — regardless of their nationality, ethnicity, culture, religion or language — may apply without prejudice to live here.

Australia's total population is over 24 million people, with 3.3% being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Island descent. According to Australian Bureau of Statistics figures for 2016, more than 28 per cent of Australians were born overseas, which indicates a strong link between the Australian population and the rest of the world. The number of people immigrating to Australia is increasing each year.



## Cultural competence

Given this multicultural environment, it is essential that we build cultural competence. Cultural competence is the ability to effectively communicate and interact with people of different cultures.

Building cultural competence involves understanding your own culture and the different cultures of others. It means acknowledging the similarities and differences between cultures and breaking down stereotypes and biases.

Being aware of your own world view allows you to develop positive attitudes towards others, gain knowledge of different cultural practices and develop cross-cultural communication skills to use in your workplace and beyond. Understanding that culture is embedded in and meaningful to each individual allows you to work with children and families in a fair way that upholds principles of social justice and human rights.

Cultural competence allows us to take a stand when we encounter racism or bias. Research has shown that even young toddlers can show prejudiced behaviour and attitudes. Children learn through modelling and imitation, so your behaviours and attitudes have an impact on how children behave.

Children need to be taught respect and how to interact positively with adults and peers, including those who are different from themselves. Educators who are culturally competent are able to develop a culturally relevant and enriching curriculum. It also teaches children to reject bias and stand up for themselves and others who may be experiencing discrimination. When you bring this cultural competence to your work role, children can learn and experience acceptance for who they are. It encourages children to question behaviours that do not reflect respect or acceptance of others and diversity.