

Access

Access offers disadvantaged students the opportunity to participate in, and benefit from, involvement in extra-curricular activities. By facilitating the provision of a variety of personal development activities for students, Access aims to encourage further participation in the education process.

Access aims to target not only disadvantaged students within a community, but the community itself. It is anticipated that the local facilitation of Access will encourage social interaction and foster mutual support. Unlocking local opportunities for children and young people within their local community will enable them to establish and pursue new relationships that otherwise would have been inaccessible.

The personal development activities to be funded by Access will be provided by external partners. *Learning for Life* workers should seek opportunities to work in collaboration with schools and local organisations, thereby enhancing the capacity of The Smith Family and encouraging workers to strengthen local relationships.

Access funds will be directed at the school years with a focus on the transition from primary to high school. The age group has been selected as research indicates that participation in personal development initiatives at this time in a child's life can have the most impact.

Key contacts

Amy Gunning

Program Co-ordinator

(02) 9085 7150

amy.gunning@thesmithfamily.com.au

Access will be managed at a local level. *Learning for Life* workers will administer the application process, and will refer all applications to their Team Leader for final approval. It is envisaged that this will promote trust and ownership within *Learning for Life* teams.

Activities which can be considered for funding through Access include:

- Camps, including school, sport and music camps
- Sports Clubs Registration Fees
- Music / Art / Drama workshops
- Competition Entry Fees

This list of activities is by no means exhaustive, and it is recognised that there will be a number of activities or opportunities that do not fit into the categories listed above. When this does occur, *Learning for Life* workers should refer applications to their Team Leader for clarification and approval. While transport costs are not covered by Access, in exceptional circumstances individual cases may be reviewed by the Team Leader.

