

Table 1 Participant characteristics

Cultural Background of participants	Site of recruitment	No. of participants	Mean time in Aus. (yrs)	No. of children (A: born in Australia, O: born overseas)	Who was the interpreter for focus group?
Karen Burmese	Playgroup organised by refugee mentor	14	5.6	A: 15 O: 26	Bilingual refugee mentor (also an accredited interpreter)
Karen Burmese	Playgroup organised by refugee mentor	29	5.5	A: 32 O: 50	Bilingual refugee mentor (also an accredited interpreter)
Karen Burmese	Kindergarten	4	3.3	A: 4 O: 7	Accredited Interpreter
Iraqi Assyrian Chaldean	Playgroup organised by refugee mentor	18	8.5	A: 38 O: 12	Bilingual refugee mentor
Iraqi Assyrian Chaldean Lebanese	Studying English at an adult English language centre organised by an cultural welfare agency	8	4.3	A: 11 O: 11	Bilingual community representative
South Sudanese	Playgroup organised by refugee mentor	7	6.3	A: 16 O: 17	Bilingual refugee mentor

Bhutanese	Peer education program at community health service	7	1.6	A: 4 O: 6	Accredited Interpreter
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