



The Apiary the FrontProject

Your invitation to join a generation of catalytic leaders building long term change in early learning

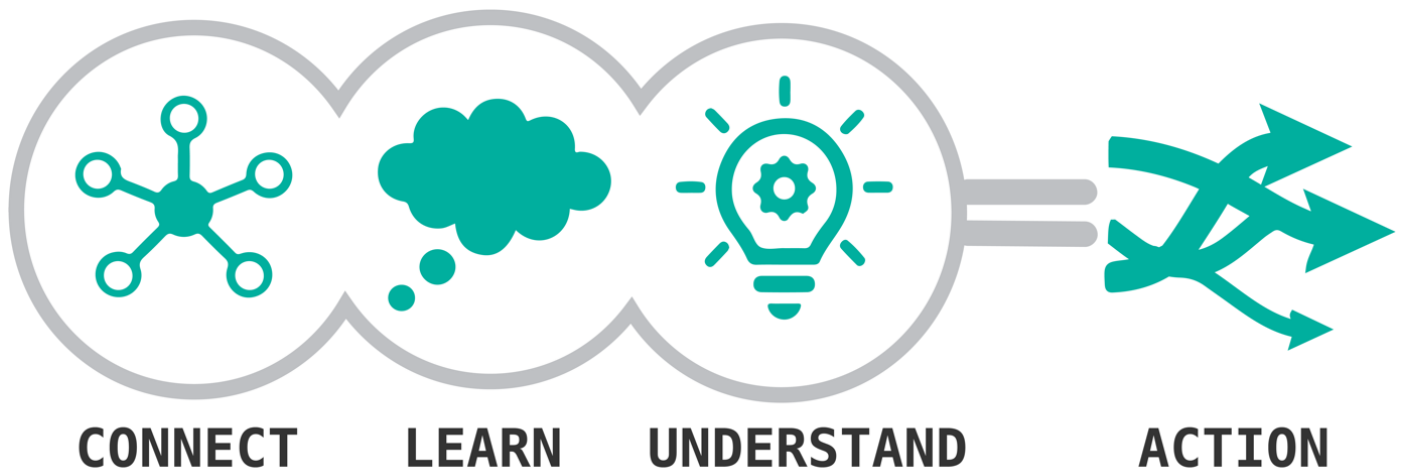
The Apiary aims to bring about change at a systems level. This means thinking about the big picture – identifying what we can do to improve the lives of children today and in generations to come.

The Apiary brings together people who are committed to creating thriving futures for children in Australia. It builds leadership, collaboration and the capability to bring about lasting change in early learning.

Together we can create thriving futures for children in Australia

Facilitated by The Front Project and Collaboration for Impact, with support from the Paul Ramsay Foundation, The Apiary creates the space to share, explore and catalyse through learning, relationships, collaboration and experience.

Applications are now open to join the Apiary Fellowship as a 2020 Fellow



Join a select group of innovators and thinkers to contribute to a new era of early childhood education by challenging, inspiring and accelerating positive change. Join us as we **CONNECT** with each other, **LEARN** from shared and different experiences and **UNDERSTAND** how insights can translate to **ACTION** within our own contexts as well as the broader early learning system

The fellows are a select group of people who are as passionate and ambitious about improving opportunities for young children as you are. We coalesce around our common purpose of improving outcomes for all children through strengthening the experience of early education and collaborate as a Fellowship to generate the momentum needed to unlock the conditions for critical shifts to the early learning system.

We support the acceleration of an early learning system designed to greatly benefit young children in a world that is going through radical change by thinking about the big picture – identifying what we can do to improve the lives of children today and in generations to come as we build an inclusive early learning environment that celebrates Australia’s rich diversity of culture and ability.

Together, we will unlock our potential to become leaders who ignite large-scale, coordinated change that keeps children at the centre. Help us to challenge the status quo and contribute to a life of learning that children must have if we are to respect their needs and thrive as a nation.

“In The Apiary I have gained a deeper understanding of what it takes to create change, and developed and tested ways to turn ideas into actions. Thought-provoking conversations have broadened my view of what is possible for children, families and the communities they live and work in when we come together to unlock the potential of early learning.”

How the Apiary Fellowship Works

The Apiary is a thinking, sharing, debating and doing space that encourages a future of early learning that will look very different for children in Australia. How we work is as different as the changes we seek and is structured to deliver a whole of system understanding.

This program is made possible through the generosity of the Paul Ramsay Foundation and part contribution of \$2500 payable by each Fellow. Fellows are responsible for covering travel and accommodation for convenings. Scholarships are also available to make participation as equitable as possible.

1. Convenings - Apiary Fellows are invited to attend convenings for 2-3 days, 4 times per year. At the convenings, participants learn about *systems thinking* and *adaptive leadership*. They then apply this knowledge to identify how they can effect change.

Apiary Fellows are here to question what we know, confront the unknown, celebrate our wins and unlock the difficult conversations that can lead to new discoveries. When we come together, our objectives are to:



Catalyse collaboration by building trust and creating connections



Build capacity and learning with individual and collective learning about systems thinking, holding dialogue and adaptive leadership



Learn from bright spots with guest speakers who have created change in other contexts



Create a shared understanding by taking time to discuss and identify 'the system' and create some common language



Develop a shared vision by working with participants to identify an (evolving) change agenda

2. Action Learning Groups - Outside of convenings, Fellows apply their knowledge base by designing, testing and collaboratively undertaking system-level interventions within small group teams around three main areas:

- Raising the profile of children's voices
- Improving the quality of early learning
- Building a national dialogue about the future of children's learning.

These areas of focus will shift and grow as the Fellowship works together on emerging priorities and in response to the changing external landscape.

3. Collaborative projects - Apiary Fellows have the opportunity to engage in collaborative projects that build on the rich theoretical framework to actively create change for children. Some examples of projects include:

- Elevating children's experiences by using their own words and art to craft articles for respected industry publications and news outlets.
- Conducting an evidence scan of Australian initiatives about children's education futures, particularly identifying local expertise in strategic foresight and large-scale engagement of young children and families in consultations to help us map possible futures for early learning.
- A series of 'Meet the Expert' events that build Fellows' capability and connections in social change.

Take your place at the forefront of systems change in early learning

We are a national fellowship of individuals who are willing to reimagine the future for our youngest learners and do what it takes to transform the early education and care system.

Fellows are invited into The Apiary for their diverse perspectives and experiences. They could be part of the sector by working at an early learning centre, for a peak body, academia, Government, business or children's services more broadly. They could contribute to the sector through research, workforce development or policy design. They could also experience the sector as a parent or carer of young children, an employer of parents and carers or through work that intersects with the sector, such as community services or health care.

Apiary fellows come together to engage in a blend of experiential and peer-to-peer learning

Fellows participate in an intensive and transformative development experience, providing the skills and tools to improve long term outcomes for children and families. Fellows forge long-lasting connections with leaders from across the sector as they work and journey together.

Fellows benefit from bespoke learning sessions that include core foundational components on systems and design thinking and adaptive leadership.

The Fellowship provides participants with additional benefits to the organisations they work in:

- Enhance their organisation's operations with robust, applicable knowledge about different ways of working, including design thinking, scenario framing, strategic engagement and reflective practice
- Bring the latest insights and evidence for improving early learning directly into your workplace
- Be in-the-know about opportunities to take action to improve early learning
- Engage broader networks and collaborate with other leaders to champion quality early education
- Build a network of trusted experts to contribute ideas for activities that achieve outcomes.

The Apiary
the
FrontProject

Expressions of Interest for The Apiary are now open, submit your application on our website today to join this transformative initiative.

For further questions, contact The Front Project via email:
info@thefrontproject.org.au