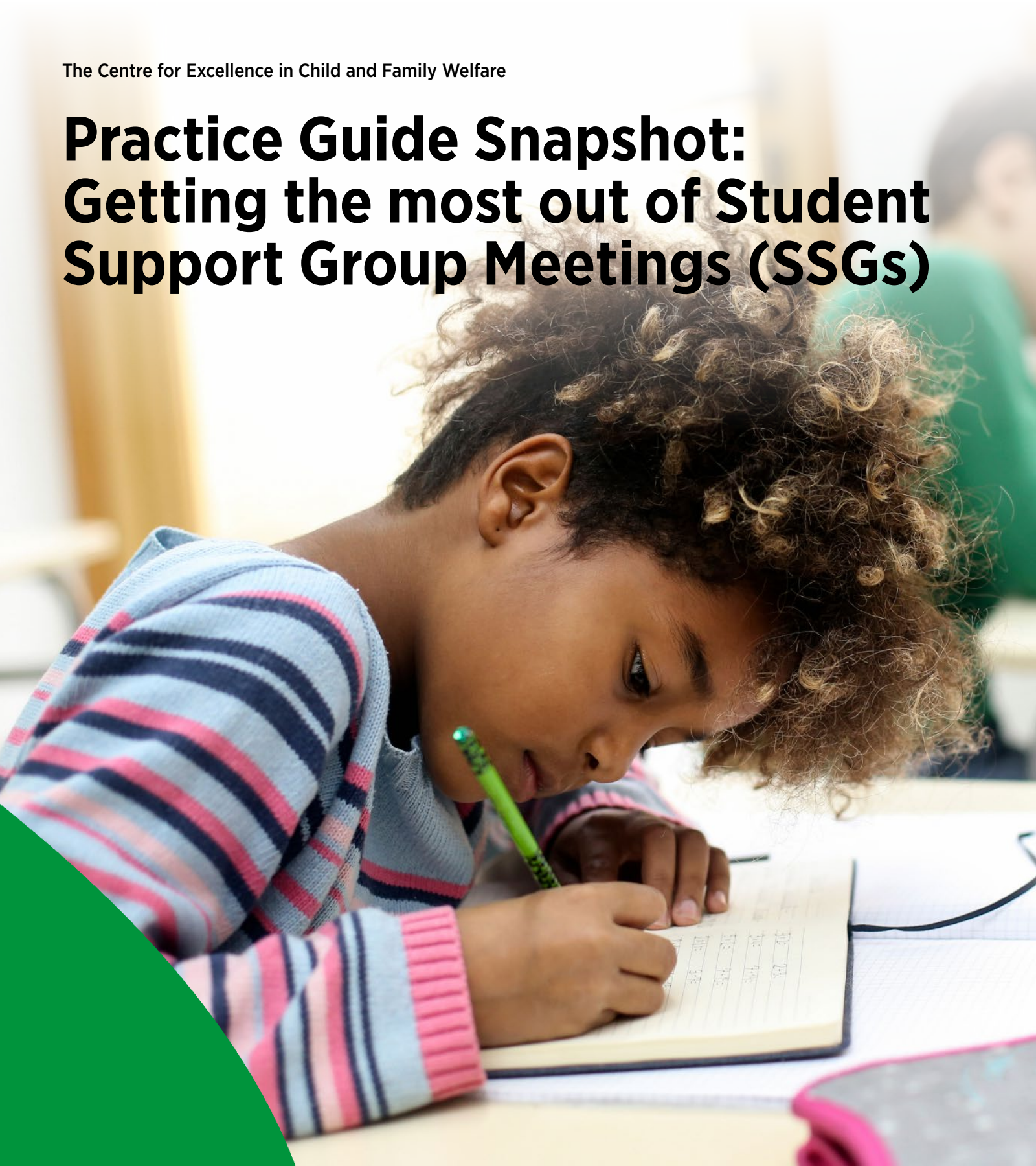


# Practice Guide Snapshot: Getting the most out of Student Support Group Meetings (SSGs)



## Key terms for SSGs:

### TEAM

Consists of professionals including school staff, case managers, the child/young person and their carer

### ATTENDEES

It is important to consider who attends as this is very distinct from a care team meeting. It is important to discuss with the child/young person/carer beforehand who should be in attendance.

### STUDENT VOICE

The student has the right to have a say in what they think when adults are making decisions that affect them and their opinions should be taken into account. The student has the right to attend the meeting or not but should be consulted before the meeting actually takes place to voice their views.

# Key terms for SSGs:

## CARER VOICE

Carers hold a unique perspective on and relationship with the student. Their opinions should carry as much weight as any professionals. You can speak with them before SSG meetings about what can be expected and whether there are concerns or anything to be celebrated.

## PARENT VOICE

The parent voice is important when there are plans for re-unification otherwise it may not be appropriate or safe for their involvement.

## INDIGENOUS CULTURE

KESO (Koorie Engagement Support Officer) should be invited to the first SSG to share information about cultural activities and provide cultural support for the Indigenous student. The KESO helps ensure cultural safety of the young person within SSG meetings

## CALD COMMUNITIES

CALD (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse) young people have a variety of needs. Building a strong rapport with family is crucial to understanding the cultural needs of the student. Things to consider, is an interpreter required? Does the school promote cultural inclusivity and safety? Can the school celebrate the students culture?

## PLANNING AND PREPARATION

Schools should set the agenda, send the invites and ensure the right people are invited to attend. Discussing with the student and carer beforehand the agenda items is crucial to giving them their voice throughout the process.

## STRENGTHS FOCUSED

There are going to be times where challenges and difficulties need to be discussed. When stuck, refer to the chair and the IEP to change the direction of the conversation.

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