

## **Building Blocks for School Success**

The *Building Blocks for School Success* is represented as a 'wall' comprising of 'blocks' which are the skills and behaviours underpinning school based learning. School based learning is located at the very apex of the wall and competency in all aspects of learning, is dependent upon a firm, stable foundation of these underlying skills. The 'blocks' or skills are bonded together by language and memory. Language and memory represent the mortar which not only holds the wall in place but gives strength and stability to the foundations of learning. The wall provides a useful framework for conceptualising student's development and for understanding the impact of underlying skills and behaviours upon school based learning. It is often assumed that most, if not all, of the underlying skills or 'blocks' are in place when a student commences school however this is not always the case. The 'wall' provides a useful tool to assist parents, educators and health professionals to work collaboratively to address the gaps and strengthen the wall for optimal learning outcomes.





## LANGUAGE & MEMORY

represent the mortar which not only holds the wall in place but gives strength and stability to the foundations of learning

Abstract reasoning

Metaphorical language

Activities of daily living

Organisation

Emotional regulation

Pragmatics

Awareness of space

Awareness of time

Play and imagination

Social Behaviour

• Grammar (word order, sentence structure, grammatical endings)

Sensorimotor (oculamotor, oromotor)

Motor planning & Movement (fine motor, gross motor)

Visual processing skills

Auditory processing skills

Awareness of others and social structures

Concepts
Semantics (vocabulary)

Reflex maturation (controlled movements)

Body awareness

Muscle tone

Balance (postural control, protective reactions) Bilateral Integration & crossing the midline Attention to task &screening out unimportant stimuli

• Communicating preverbal needs, wants, social interests (communicative intent)

Preverbal conceptual development

Olfactory (smell)

Gustatory (taste)

Tactile (touch)

Proprioceptive (position)

Visual (see) Auditory (hear)

Vestibular (movement)

## **BUILDING BLOCKS FOR SCHOOL SUCCESS**