

# Homework Support Program - Evaluation Report

July 2018 – June 2019

In 2018/2019, the Migrant Information Centre (Eastern Melbourne) (MIC) facilitated six Homework Support Programs (HSP) within the Eastern Metropolitan Region (EMR). Three HSPs were offered at the Croydon, Mooroolbark and REALM libraries and three HSPs were offered in primary schools in Croydon, Heathmont and Mooroolbark. The HSP assists children and young people to do their homework, improve their written English, reading and comprehension skills, develop study skills and routines and provide opportunities for children to make new friends and build social skills. All programs are facilitated by MIC staff and trained volunteer tutors. All HSPs run weekly during school terms.

An average of 87 students attended the programs on a weekly basis. The average number of students that attended each program include:

- Croydon Primary School (25 students)
- Great Ryrie Primary School (22 students)
- Manchester Primary School (20 students)
- Croydon Library (7 students)
- Mooroolbark Library (5 students)
- REALM Library (8 students)

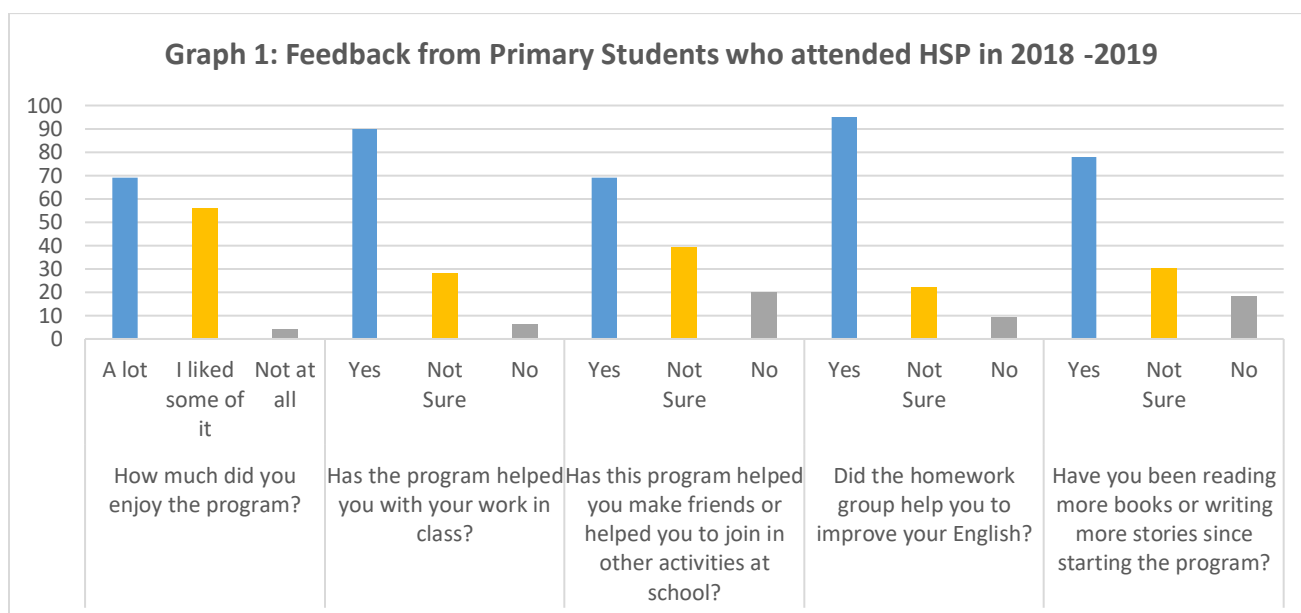
## Feedback

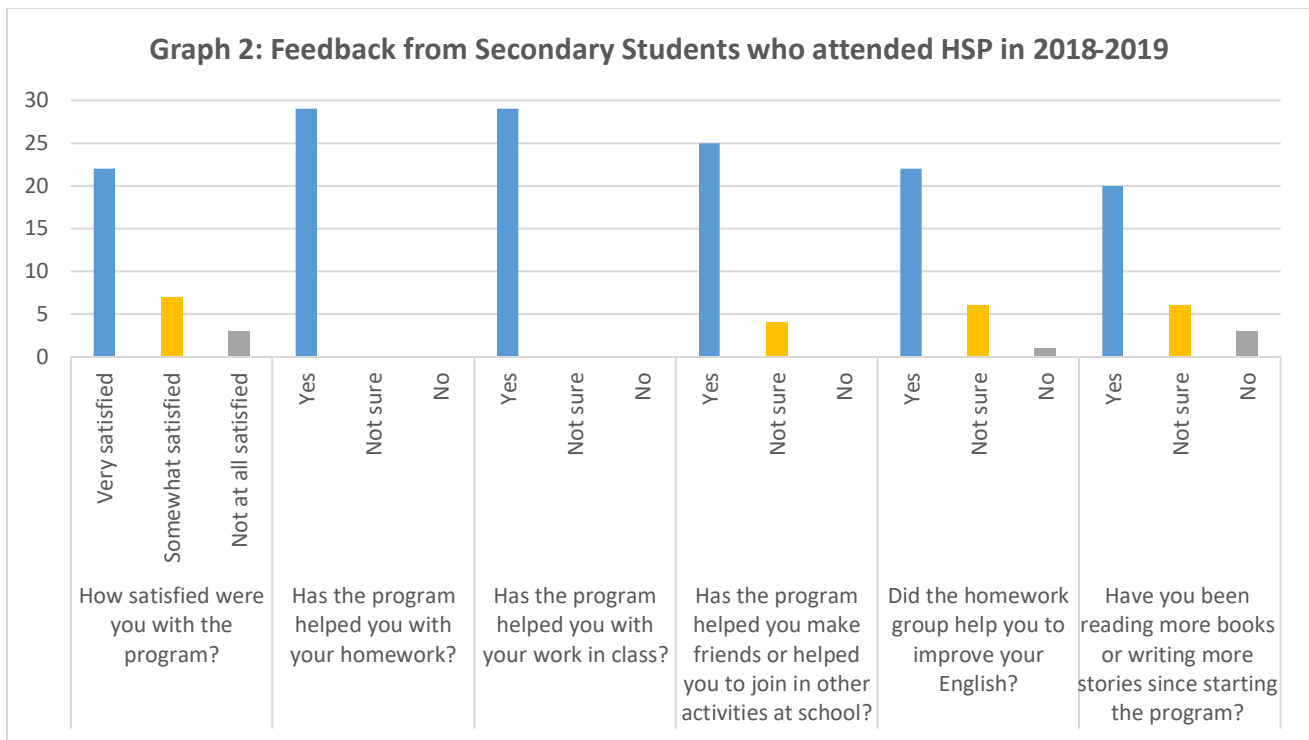
Feedback was collected from students, teachers and parents associated with the programs. Both quantitative and qualitative feedback was sort on two occasions through feedback forms (December 2018 and June 2019).

## Students

Feedback was collected from a total of 157 students. In December 2018, 89 students provided feedback and in June 2019 there were 68 students who provided feedback. Majority of these students who responded were the same.

Feedback from students indicate a high level of satisfaction with the programs, with 70% (90 out of 128) of primary school students reporting that the program has helped them with their work in class and 100% (29 out of 29) of secondary students reported that the program has helped them with their homework and work in class. See *Graph 1 and Graph 2*.



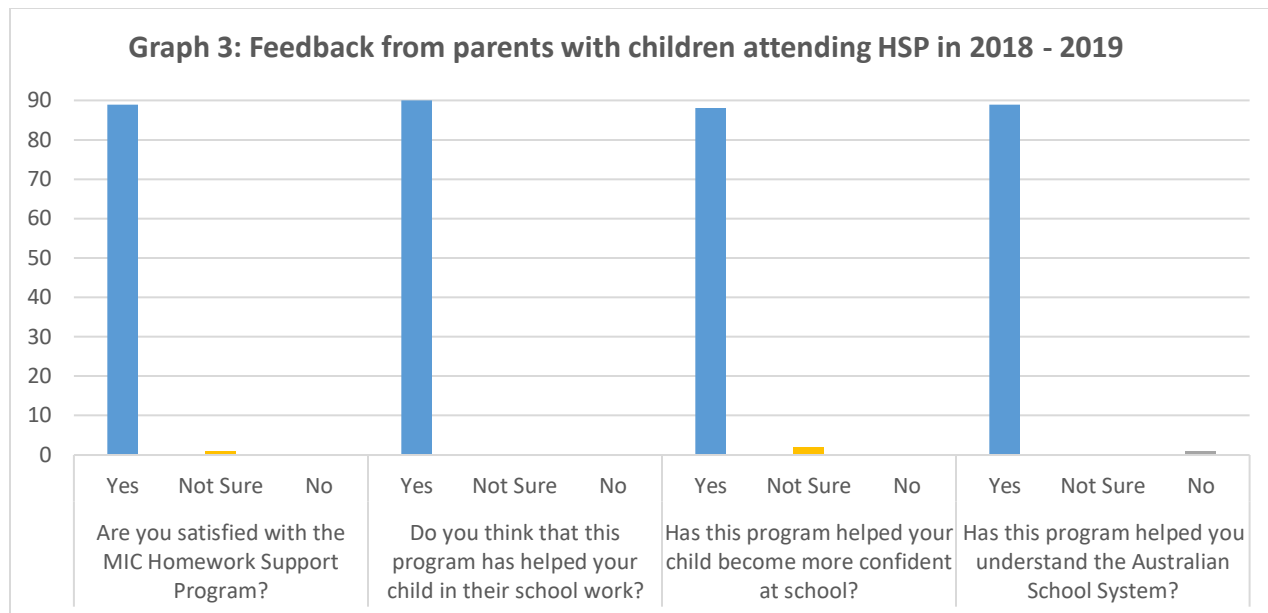


Comments from students who participated in the program included:

- *Having tutors help me with one on one is the most helpful so far. The tutor can fully focus on my work and can help me with my homework.*
- *The amount of help it offers and the passionate tutors encourages me to strive in my education. Through the program I developed my communication skills as well as my writing.*
- *The activities helped me in reading because at home my mum can't help me.*
- *Reading has helped me a lot, also to pronounce words as well. Games, it makes me happy and the day isn't boring.*
- *Reading and writing and problem solving helped my English and my mathematics knowledge and had improved a lot since I joined the program. I've also gained confidence in my public speaking and the program allowed me to make new friends through my school.*
- *It would be great if we could have a holiday program like this.*
- *This program has helped me up to date with my schoolwork before I joined the program I am always behind the class and sometimes felt that I am a failure. Since getting the support from the program my results are rising gradually and I have improved in all of my subjects.*
- *Math helped me a lot. And not doing my homework at home and getting to understand my homework better here.*
- *I like the spelling and doing worksheets. It is helpful when the teachers correct my English which helps me to learn the right way.*

## Parents

Feedback was collected from a total of 90 parents. Feedback from parents indicated a high level of satisfaction with the program, with 100% of parents agreeing that the program helped their children in their school work. The vast majority (98%) of parents reported that the program helped their children become more confident at school. See *Graph 3*.

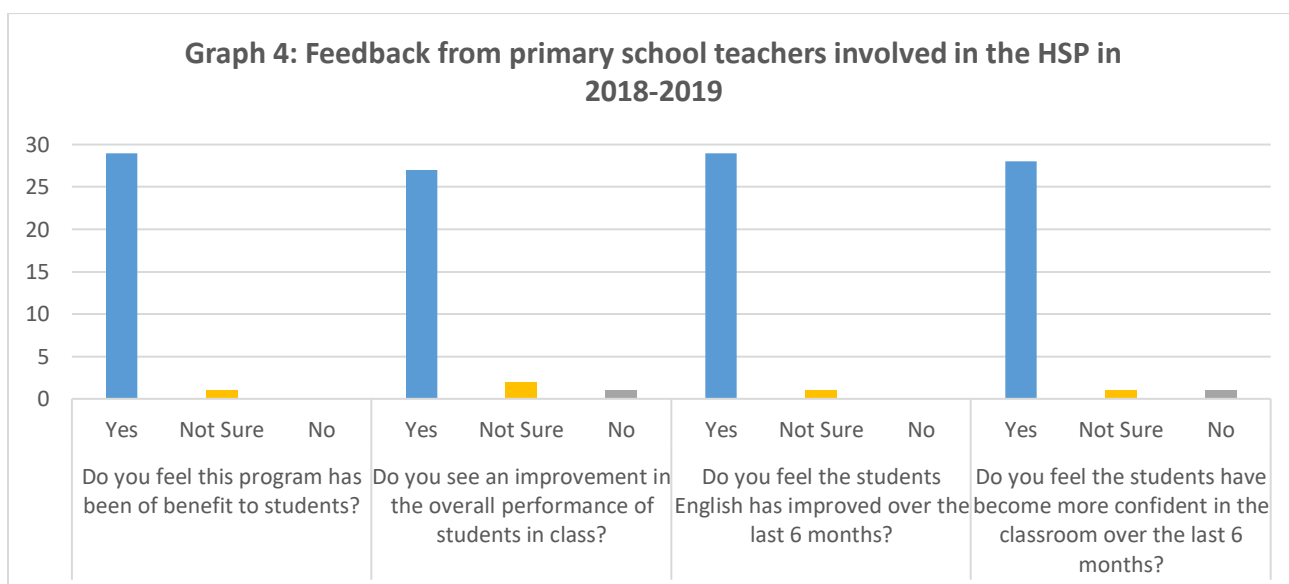


Comments from parents with children who participated in the program included:

- *It is really helpful for my child because I can't teach at home, so I would suggest two or three days a week would be grateful.*
- *I would like the program to help my children to improve his/her reading and writing skills.*
- *Very happy with homework class. My child has improved a lot from attending homework group.*
- *We would like to continue in the future.*
- *We would like to say thank you for helping out child for what they need including some food at break.*

### Teachers

Feedback was collected from a total of 30 teachers from the three primary schools involved. Feedback from teachers was overall positive, with 97% (29 out of 30) of teachers agreeing that the program had been a benefit to students. 90% of primary teachers (27 out of 30) reported an improvement in the overall performance of students in class. See *Graph 4*.



Comments from teachers from schools involved in the programs included:

- *Take home books are sometimes difficult for families to read and comprehend with the children. Reading take home books would be beneficial or vocabulary work.*
- *Thank you for supporting our students.*
- *From my own experiences with the students who have attended the program, it has certainly heightened their confidence and enthusiasm back in the classroom. Improving their self-esteem encourages them so much to want to listen and learn. Thank you.*
- *I know my students really enjoy the program and it provides them with opportunities to read, etc with someone, an opportunity they don't get in English at home.*