

The Potential and Challenges of Evaluating the Effectiveness of Early Childhood Programmes Seeking to Promote Respect for Ethnic Diversity

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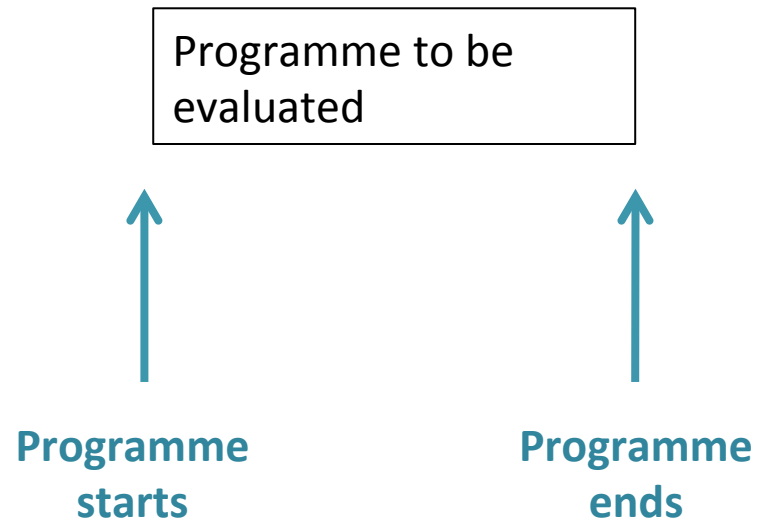
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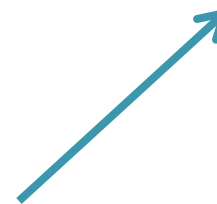
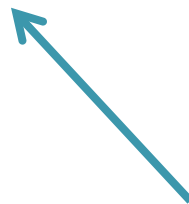
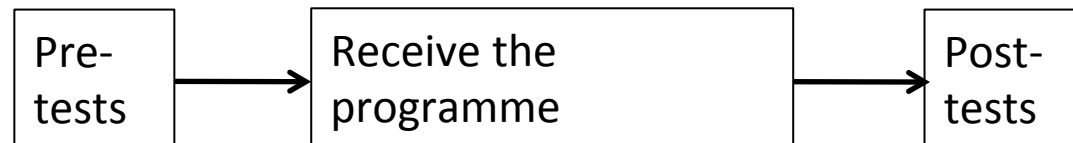
Outline

- Basic methodological approach: the randomised controlled trial (RCT)
- Benefits of using RCTs
- Challenges in using RCTs

Methodology

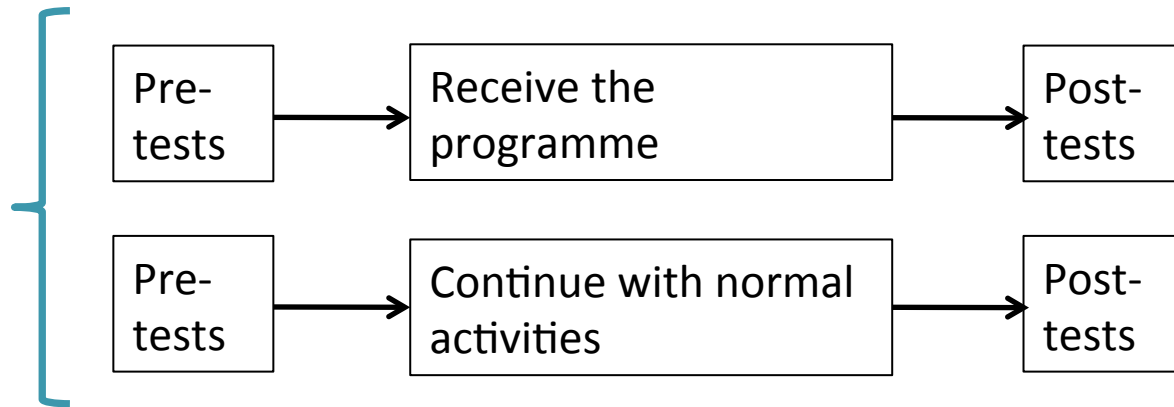


Methodology



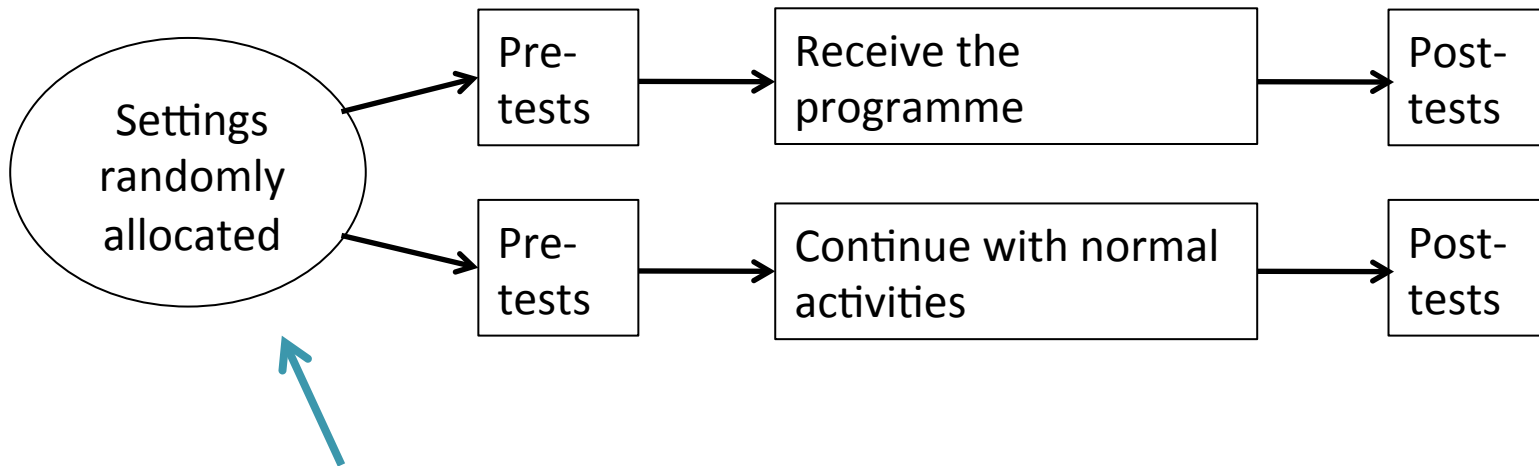
Measure change before and after regarding children's: awareness, attitudes and/or behaviour

Methodology



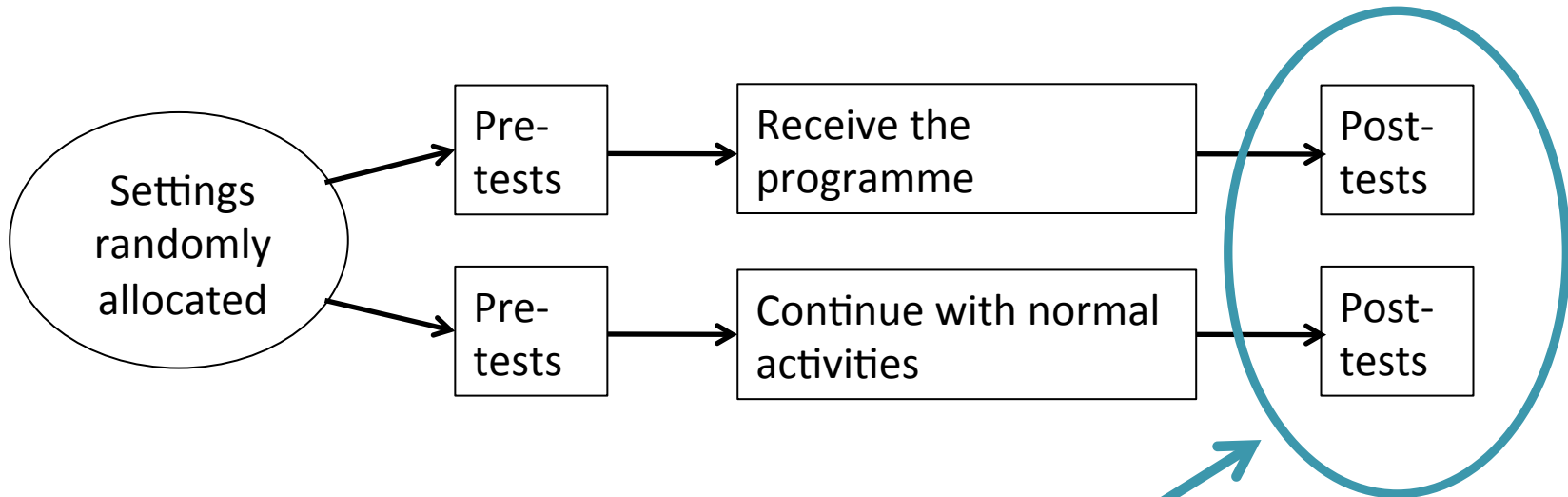
Need for a comparison or control group

Methodology



**Need to randomly
allocate children
or settings**

Methodology



Have the children receiving the programme made more gains than those in control group?

Benefits of using RCTs

- Mechanism for developing shared understanding and agreement of goals of the programme
- Can specifically address the issue of effectiveness
- Findings from RCTs, if presented carefully and in an accessible way, can appeal to policy-makers and practitioners

Challenges of using RCTs

- Dangers of jumping prematurely to large trials – need for small efficacy tests first
- Need to consider outcomes very carefully and ensure they are realistic and theoretically-based
- Not everything can be measured
- Importance of qualitative research to complement trials
- Importance of addressing ethical issues
- Need to be very careful regarding the claims made from the findings