

## About case study research

The Early Years Behaviour Support Project (EYBSP) implemented case studies as part of the project's research method. Several different theories support the effectiveness and inform the scope of case study research:

- A case study allows the researcher to conduct an in-depth and comprehensive assessment of the case of interest (Simons, 2009).
- Case study research involves intensive study of a single unit for the purpose of understanding a larger class of similar units. Case study research observes a single point in time or over some delimited point of time (Gerring, 2004, p. 342).
- Case studies therefore provide the opportunity for researchers to gain a deep holistic view that can facilitate description, understanding, and explaining of the research situation (Baxter & Jack, 2008).
- Exploratory case studies are one of three prominent types of case studies and allow for the phenomena to be explored in depth when the phenomena are characterised by a lack of detailed preliminary research (Streb, 2010).
- Exploratory case studies are an often-underestimated approach criticised for their high level of flexibility and adaptivity. These same aspects form the strength of their research design. An exploratory case study allows the researcher the opportunity to develop definitions, data collection methods, and hypotheses for future subsequent explanatory research in emerging fields of research (Streb, 2010).



