

CARER CONNECT NEWSLETTER



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF SHARED FAMILY CARE JANUARY- MARCH 2021 | ISSUE 20

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

**A CHILD CAN NEVER HAVE TOO MANY
PEOPLE TO LOVE THEM!**

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Program Manager Update

Welcome carers to another SFC Newsletter packed with information.

Well, this year is well under way and it looks like it is going to be a very exciting year with some big changes for SFC, such as moving into new office space.

This space will allow us to offer our carers a space that is child friendly and welcoming. It not too far away from our office now, so still in a location that is accessible. More details of the new address will be sent out to everyone as we get closer to the moving date.

Our focus for 2021, is to offer more flexible training opportunities and developing our carer support groups. We are committed to keep you all informed of any changes to legislation that impacts on carers, training opportunities, and event through face book, by emails, through our newsletter and by your case worker. If you are not a member of SFC Carers face book page yet, please join us.

Some highlights of this newsletter are the partnership with “Hope in a Suitcase”, the new “Statement of Commitment to Queensland Foster & Kinship Carers”, Carer support groups, Workshops for Youth engagement and the opportunity to win a “Thermomix” plus much more!

Wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable Easter.

Judy Williams
Program Manager.

CEO Update

Happy New Year to you and your families. I sincerely hope 2021 has started well and continues this way for you all.

2021 is geared to be another busy and positive year for Althea Projects. Confirming that in late May, early June Shared Family Care and Corporate office will relocate to one of the tenancies that is part of the new development being built by BM Webb Industries in Fleming Street. We are looking forward to the new location that will enable us to have more space to deliver services. As part of the floor design we have incorporated a large conference room, 2 meeting rooms and a family room. We want this space to be welcoming, engaging and one you can access that adds value to your experiences working with us.

For those who aren't aware Althea Projects, Townsville Drop in Centre started a social enterprise last year called Morehead Meals. This service is focused on connecting our community through affordable, ethical, healthy and delicious pre-made meals. By purchasing meals from us you are directly contributing to a healthier, resilient, and more connected Townsville. Money from each meal purchase will be reinvested back into Morehead Meals to assist us to grow the enterprise to provide opportunities for homeless and long-term unemployed in our community to gain the necessary skills and confidence to improve their employability. Meals are \$6 each or \$25 for 6. If you haven't already come across our new social enterprise please visit our website to find out more.

Althea Projects Wee Care service continues to deliver a Playgroup Thursday mornings from 9.30am to 11.30am, excluding school holidays, at our South Townsville location. The Playgroup is affiliated with Playgroup Qld. The primary objective of our Playgroup is to provide an educational, recreational and social playgroup in a discrimination free environment that will meet the needs of families, caregivers, and children within our community. If you would like to find out more contact Wee Care on 4772 4499 or resi@altheaprojects.org.au.

Thank you for your continued commitment to foster and kinship caring and the trust you place with Althea Projects to support you in this important role you play in our community.

Paula La Rosa
CEO- Althea Projects

STAFF LIST



The list below are all current workers employed at Althea Projects - Shared Family Care

PROGRAM MANAGER

Judith Williams - judith@altheaprojects.org.au

TEAM LEADER

Justin Pascoe - justin.pascoe@altheaprojects.org.au

QUALITY MANAGER

Kelli-Ann - kelli-ann@altheaprojects.org.au

INTAKE OFFICER

Katisha Skeene - katisha.skeene@altheaprojects.org.au

ADMINISTRATION

Kaelen-Jae Watts - kaelen.watts@altheaprojects.org.au

ADMINISTRATION TRAINEE

Tanika Ryan - tanika.ryan@altheaprojects.org.au

CULTURAL ADVISOR

Lena Watego - lena.watego@altheaprojects.org.au

FAMILY CASE WORKER

Beverley Barry - beverley.barry@altheaprojects.org.au

FAMILY CASE WORKER

Ainslee Tirendi - ainslee.tirendi@altheaprojects.org.au

FAMILY CASE WORKER

Mikayla Johnstone - mikaylaj@altheaprojects.org.au

FAMILY CASE WORKER

Janine McFarlane - janine.mcfarlane@altheaprojects.org.au

FAMILY CASE WORKER

Joshua Burke - joshua.burke@altheaprojects.org.au

FAMILY CASE WORKER

Emily Fiamingo - emily.fiamingo@altheaprojects.org.au

FAMILY CASE WORKER

Anne-Marie Houston - anne-marie@altheaprojects.org.au

ASSESSMENTS OFFICER

Yana Bull - yana.bull@altheaprojects.org.au

INTENSIVE FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER

Mary Elwin - mary.elwin@altheaprojects.org.au

LEARNING LANGUAGE



Shared Family Care is going to make it a standing page in the Carer Connect Newsletter to have an Indigenous Australian word and/or words and definition, as well as which tribe it originates from.

GIRRAGUNYDJIY

means **GREEN**

FROG in the

Yidiny Language.

It's pronounced

"Gear-a-gun-gee".



Yidiny is the name of one of the languages spoken in the Cairns region extending to Gordonvale and along the tablelands to Kairi.



MAKE YOUR HOME CULTURALLY SAFE

To assist with making your home culturally safe for our young First Nation's people here are a few suggestions:

- Turn your Television onto Channel 34 for our Indigenous TV network called NITV.
- Listen to our Indigenous radio station 4K1G which is on channel 107.1FM.
- Shared Family Care will encourage you to attend the different CULTURAL Events in the region. This is an opportunity to acknowledge leader's past, present and emerging and experience First Nation's Culture.
- Display Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artwork around your house.
- Display photos of the children and their families in their bedroom.

If in doubt, please do not hesitate to call Shared Family Care and ask for your Cultural Advisor.

Thank you!



Cultural Advisor Flyer



MY CULTURE

"Culture is about the way we live. All the things we believe in. Our lifestyles, our rituals, our language, our families. The way we see our family is a very important part of our culture... We have special relationships and responsibilities to our family. What we call our kinship system. We can't really understand how we see families and culture without understanding our religion and our relationship to the land. It's all in together. Aboriginal people live in a range of lifestyles in traditional situations, on cattle stations, in country town and in cities... But wherever we live, we still retain our sense of family. It is through families we learn about culture. All these things teach us who we are and our individual place in the world."

Ernie Dingo—Aboriginal Actor



Shared Family Care would like to support all our Carers in ensuring that all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in their care are able to stay connected to their Culture.

To ensure that this is happening we now have an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Advisor.

My name is Lena Watego and I will be accompanying Family Case Workers on their home visits to assist with planning how together we can keep Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children connected to their Culture.



BILLABONG SANCTUARY

With school holidays fast approaching, Shared Family Care offer access to Billabong Sanctuary all year round for Carers and family members.

There is no better way to spend your weekends and school holiday then enjoying a day at Billabong Sanctuary meeting your favourite animals in a tropical bushland setting, on the shores of the billabong, where everyone is guaranteed a rewarding personal experience.

Billabong Sanctuary offer a range of activities for a family fun day, including shows throughout the day showcasing Australia's unique animals. Blinky Bill's licensed café offers hot and cold drinks, freshly made meals and desserts, gluten free options are available too or you are welcome to pack a picnic and use their free gas BBQ's on site.

Head over to their website to view opening and closing hours, show times and what the sanctuary has available. Be mindful COVID-19 restrictions have been put in place to ensure the safety of everyone. Information regarding COVID-19 can also be found on their website or contact their friendly staff on (07) 4778 8344.



Important update to Carer Connect!

In exciting news foster and kinship carers can now take photos of receipts and submit CRC requests for reimbursement directly to your local CSSC through the CarerConnect App.

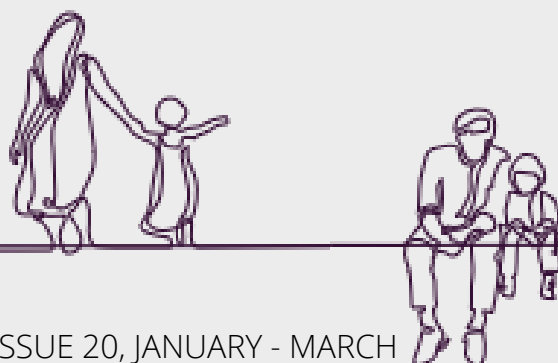
Carers using the App will have noticed a new 'CRC Reimbursement' tab has been available since February and is there to help you submit CRC applications.

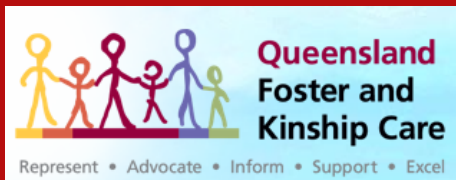
The App is available to all carers. Carers not already using the App can register via: <https://carerconnect.communities.qld.gov.au/#/login-or-register>
For carers with frequent CRC, using the App can be a real time saver.

Changes to CRC Delegations!

At the same time as improving the App, the Department has also introduced new financial delegations for Business Officers and Senior Business Officers to support quicker processing of CRC reimbursement under \$250.

These changes have been developed as a direct result of carer feedback through Partners in Care forums and should see real time improvements for carer reimbursements.





Queensland Foster and Kinship Care: Face-to-face training

Queensland Foster and Kinship Care (QFKC) will be facilitating face-to-face training now that COVID-19 has calmed down.

All of the below training programs are open to ALL Foster and Kinship Carers. (We are yet to confirm the location, details will be announced once confirmed)

- 17 March 2021 - Understanding QCAT & Children Court (9:30am - 2:00pm)
- 28 April 2021 - Family Contact (9:30am - 1:30pm)
- 26 May 2021 - Standards of Care (9:30am - 12:30pm)
- 10 June - Achieving Permanency (9:30am - 2:30pm)

Queensland Foster and Kinship Care (QFKC) will facilitate each training again, either at the end of 2021 or sometime next year - (Details will be announced once confirmed).

If you're interested in attending any of the training listed above please discuss with your Case Worker or Yana Bull - Assessments Officer.

Please remember if you're unable to attend the following dates there will be another chance to participate.

For any other questions please do not hesitate to contact Shared Family Care on 4779 3332.


You are invited to attend Foster Carer Pre-Service Training

Training Dates: **Saturday 17th April & Saturday 1st May**
Time: **9am-2pm each session.**
Venue: **Shared Family Care
Level 1, 296 Ross River Road
Aitkenvale**

 Light Meal supplied. Please advise any special dietary needs

Training Agenda

Saturday 17/04/2021 Module 1 Context of Foster Care
Saturday 17/04/2021 Module 2 Understanding the past for a child
Saturday 01/05/2021 Module 3 Early Days in Placement
Saturday 01/05/2021 Module 4 Quality Care-working together.

 It is important to attend all sessions to be able to complete the training | modules and worksheets.

Please RSVP to confirm your attendance by **Monday 05/04/2021** to your Foster Care Worker in your agency.

Presented by:



WE
LIFE WITHOUT BARRIERS
VE



Blue Cards – No Card, No Start Law

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

FOR FOSTER AND KINSHIP CARERS

New Legislation changes will come into effect from the 31st August 2020 for Blue Cards No Card, No Start laws.

These changes have been made as a result of the 2017 Queensland Family and Child Commission's report – *Keeping Queensland's children more than safe: Review of the blue card system*. Although the report showed that the Queensland Working with Children Check system is one of the strongest in Australia, there is opportunity to provide a more streamlined and stronger system.

WHAT ARE THE MAIN CHANGES?

No Card, No Start law identifies that people cannot work with children or young people until their Blue Card application has been approved. These new rules ensure that employees will be bound by the same rules as those for volunteers and business applicants.

Expiring Cards Rule has changed, this means that people can continue to work with children and young people if they lodge their renewal application before their current blue card expires. If their blue card expires before they lodge their renewal application they will be subject to the No Card, No Start law.

Expiry date for exemption cards – Queensland police and teachers will need to renew their blue cards prior to their expiry if they still require their blue card for work purposes.

Changes to police information – No Card, No Start law incorporates a more streamlined process for applicants to advise Blue Card Services of any changes to their police information.

Stricter rules for restricted persons ensures people who are considered to be a restricted person cannot access an exception to screening by virtue of being a volunteer.

CHANGES FOR FOSTER AND KINSHIP CARERS

Do I need to child safety to sign my blue card application or renewal application

No. Child Safety are no longer responsible for verifying identification (ID) for a blue card application.

When applying for a blue card applicants will be required to verify their ID through the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR). The verification process can occur either through the Blue Card online application portal or in person at TMR.

Child Safety is also no longer required to advise blue card applicants of the disqualified person rule, this will be the responsibility of the applicant when they complete their application.

I cannot access the online portal, can I still submit a paper based application?

Yes. Blue Card Services will continue to accept paper based applications. If you need to apply for your blue card via the paper based system, you are still required to follow the new No Card, No Start law and processes. If you do not have a form of photo ID with TMR, for example a driver's licence, you will need to attend TMR to prove your identity and obtain a photo and Customer Reference Number (CRN).

What role does Child Safety play in my Blue Card application?

To apply for a Blue Card as a volunteer (free of charge), you will require an online account number which will be supplied to you once you verify your identity through TMR. You must supply this online account number to Child safety as a part of your carer application form (APA) to ensure you are linked to Child Safety.

Once linked, Blue Card services will notify you and you will be able to begin your Blue Card application free of charge.

I am being considered for provisional approval (PAC), do I need a blue card?

No. Child Safety Central Screening Unit (CSU) will continue to conduct all required checks for provisional approval applicants, including personal, child protection and criminal histories.

However, once provisionally approved, you will need to have obtained a blue card before your provisional approval expires.

My blue card is due to expire, is there a time limit to lodge a renewal application?

You must complete your renewal application before your current blue card expires. A renewal application can be submitted by a carer any time prior to their current blue card expiring. Your current blue card will remain valid once you have submitted your renewal application, meaning you can continue your caring role while your renewal application is being processed.

If you are renewing an existing blue card for the first time under the new No Card No Start laws and you do not have a form of photo ID with TMR, for example a driver's licence, you will need to attend TMR or you will need to contact Blue Card Services directly.

I have a new adult household member (AHM) planning to live in our home. Does the person need to have a blue card before they can move in?

No. As long as you have correctly informed Child Safety of the change in circumstances and completed the 'Change in Carer Circumstances' form. The new AHM will need to complete the 'New Adult Household Member' form and begin the blue card application process.

Just like carers, an adult household member will need to complete the verification of ID process with TMR in order to provide their online account number to CSU to be linked to Child Safety as a volunteer.

CSU will complete the required checks such as personal, child protection and criminal history. An adult household member can remain in the carer household if CSU deem them suitable while blue card services complete their application.

My blue card has expired and I haven't yet lodged a renewal application, what happens now?

If your blue card expires before you lodge a renewal application, you will be subject to the No Card No Start laws.

Any children placed in your care will require a new care arrangement until you receive your new blue card approval.

A renewal application cannot be lodged after your current blue card has expired. A new blue card application will need to be completed starting with the verification of ID process.

A young person in my household will be turning 18 in a few months and will remain living in my household. When can they apply for their Blue Card?

A young person is able to apply for a blue card from 17 years and 9 months of age.

The young person will need to follow the No Card No Start blue card process, beginning with the verification of ID through TMR.

If no response has been received from Blue Card Services regarding the young person's application and their 18th birthday is approaching, please ensure immediate follow up with Blue Card Services occurs to ensure continuity of care for the young person.

If a young person turns 18 and Blue Card Services have not advised of an outcome of their blue card application, the new AHM process will need to be followed, pending follow up with Blue Card Services.

For further information regarding Blue Cards No Card No Start associated processes please refer to the [Blue Card Services Website](#).

Link to the [online applicant portal](#)

Link to the No Card No Start [forms](#)

Link to [Blue Card applications](#) information

Fortnightly Caring Allowance Rates Schedule

Base Foster Care Payments

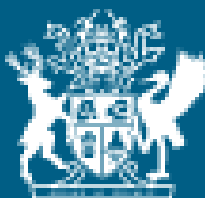
Allowance	2020 Rate	New Rate effective January 1 st 2021
Start-up allowance: Age 0-18	\$108.50	\$109.20
Establishment Payments: All Ages	\$541.66	\$545.02
Fortnightly Caring Allowance: Age 0-5	\$502.74	\$505.82
Fortnightly Caring Allowance: Age 6-10	\$541.66	\$545.02
Fortnightly Caring Allowance: Age 11 & over	\$588.70	\$592.34
Regional Remote Loading: Age 0-5	\$50.40	\$50.82
Regional Remote Loading: Age 6-10	\$54.32	\$54.74
Regional Remote Loading: Age 11 & over	\$58.94	\$59.36

High Support Needs Allowance

Allowance	2020 Rate	New Rate effective January 1 st 2021
High Support Needs Allowance: Age 0-18	\$176.81	\$177.94

Complex Support Needs Allowance

Allowance	2020 Rate	New Rate effective January 1 st 2021
Complex Support Needs Allowance level 1	\$229.04	\$230.44
Complex Support Needs Allowance level 2	\$457.80	\$460.60
Complex Support Needs Allowance level 3	\$686.84	\$691.04



Queensland Government

CAREGIVER TIP #5

Shared Family Care are going to make it a standing page in the Carer Connect Newsletter to have a Caregiver Tip.

Effective Ways to Boost Children's Wellbeing

- Keep active, physical activity is essential for everyone.
- Limit the time children spend having screen time.
- Foster positive relationships with everyone.
- Sleep is an important element in maintaining good mental and physical wellbeing.
- Being resilient is one of the most important qualities to develop in children.
- Gardening helps build strength, improves memory and boosts your mood.
- Friendships are important, friends help children improve their self-confidence, self-worth and they help increase their sense of belonging.
- Listen to podcasts, this helps children use their imagination and build pictures in their mind.
- Eat healthy meals.
- Make children aware you are always there for them.
- Provide children with a space of their own.
- Talk to children - about the good and bad days.
- Bring fun and playfulness into their lives.
- Encourage volunteering activities.
- Help them relax.
- Let them know you're proud of them.
- Give your child attention.
- **PROVIDE A SAFE AND POSITIVE HOME LIFE.**

POOL SAFETY CERTIFICATES

What is a Pool Safety Certificate?

A Pool Safety Certificate is a document that is issued by the law as an indication that the pool conforms with the safety standard. A Pool Safety Certificate needs to be supplied if there is a child in out- of-home care that will be living at the property with a pool.

What is classified as a pool?

A pool is classified as an excavation, structure or vessel that can be filled with water to a depth of more than 300 millimeters. A pool is an above or below ground structure for swimming, paddling or any other human aquatic activity.

Do you need a Pool Safety Certificate?

Yes, if you care for a child in out-of-home care and the home that you live in has access to a pool you are required to supply a Pool Safety Certificate. This is including non-shared pools on private property of shared pools in unit or apartment complexes.

Renting a property with a pool?

Owners of rented properties are required to obtain a Pool Safety Certificate before renting the property and these are valid for two (2) years from the date of issue for non-shared pools (i.e. a pool on a private property) or valid for one (1) year for shared pools (i.e. units or apartment complexes).

If you are unsure weather the house you are looking to move into already has a Pool Safety Certificate, you can find out via the Queensland Building and Construction Commission website under the Pool Register.

<https://www.qbcc.qld.gov.au/home-building-owners/pool-safety/find-pool-safety-inspector-search-property-psi-login>



Queensland Foster and Kinship Care Become a FAST rep

What is a FAST?

FAST is a team of trained specialist local Foster and Kinship Carers who have volunteered to provide advice, support and advocate on behalf of other Foster and Kinship Carers. FAST representatives are attached to one of five Regions across Queensland. They have the capacity to provide advice, support and advocacy to all carers in their Region and can also provide face to face support to carers within proximity or tele link into meetings where needed. The FAST representative provides a local avenue for Foster and Kinship Carers to receive advice, support and/or advocacy on individual matters.

How were the FAST representatives appointed?

Any carer is able to approach QFKC to become a FAST representative. Interested carers receive an application with a Selection Criteria and a Position Description. Once the application is received, QFKC seeks feedback from key stakeholders in the relevant Region. An interview panel then takes place with the applicant to explore applicant's views on the role, what they hope to offer and other relevant areas. The applicant is then invited to attend two days of induction training and then a final recommendation is made taking into account all of this information to QFKC'S Executive Director.

What else is offered?

As a FAST representative, you have a great opportunity to network in your community to build strong and productive working relationships with key stakeholders. Every year our FAST representatives are provided with regional FAST training over a 2-day period with workshops and personal development opportunities.

To learn more about becoming a FAST representative, becoming a carer, events that are happening, news and/or training, **visit www.qfkc.com.au** or speak to someone over the phone on **(07) 4779 9513**



Queensland Foster and Kinship Care Returning to Foster Caring

Are you a former foster carer considering returning to caring?

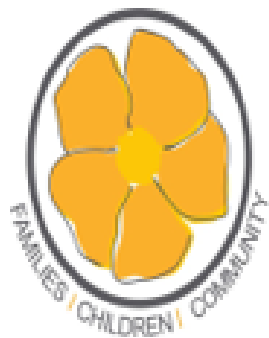
If you are a former foster carer, Queensland Foster and Kinship Care have streamlined the process to reduce the amount of time it takes to begin caring again.

Tailored advice to inform you about changes you need to be aware of since you stopped being a foster carer will be provided. It is unlikely you'll have to attend training that you have previously completed.

Queensland Foster and Kinship Care are seeking foster carers who are interested in short-term, long-term, short breaks, emergency or intensive foster care.

While coronavirus has caused some changes, one thing remains the same - we need foster carers to meet the ongoing needs of the most vulnerable children in Queensland.

Call Queensland Foster and Kinship care on 1300 550 877 to find out more.



Althea
PROJECTS

thermomix

WIN A THERMOMIX

\$20 A TICKET

Win a TM6 whilst supporting Althea Projects Inc. – The Townsville Drop In Centre with raising funds to support ongoing programs for the homeless members of our community.

\$20 per Ticket with a maximum of 200 tickets being sold

Prize will be drawn within 24 hours of final ticket being sold, winner will be contacted by phone and winning ticket number will be published on Althea Projects Inc. Facebook page

The new thermomix TM6 model is a smart, connected appliance where you can enjoy step-by-step guided cooking directly on screen of your thermomix. Valued at \$2,269.00

Ticket sales are open to all in Australia
and can be purchased through Townsville
Drop In Centre on 07 47722339 or email
meals@altheaprojects.org.au

Tickets can be purchased by funds transfer
or you can call in to purchase at
46-48 Morehead St, South Townsville





TOWNSVILLE
FIRE
COMMUNITY YOUTH PROGRAM

Youth Engagement Program

TOWNSVILLE
FIRE
COMMUNITY YOUTH PROGRAM
YOUTH ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

**One month until our first
workshop for 2021.**

**Tuesday, 6th and
Wednesday, 7th of April
2021.**

**All referrals due back by Monday,
29th of March, to coordinated
packs and transport.**



WORKSHOP #1 2021

**Tuesday, 6th and
Wednesday, 7th
April 2021**

DAY ONE

9:15 AM - CHECK-IN & INTRODUCTION
9:30 AM - DRUGS AND ALCOHOL - ATODS
10:30 AM - MORNING TEA
10:45 AM - WELLBEING & SELF CARE - KRISSY REGAN
11:30 AM - BASKETBALL
12:30 PM - LUNCH
1:00 PM - GOAL SETTING & RESUMES - SKILL360
2:00 PM - SEXUAL HEALTH - TAIHS
3:00 PM - END OF DAY

DAY TWO

9:15 AM - CHECK-IN & SELF DEFENCE & RESILIENCE
10:00 AM - MT & RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS
12:00 PM - LUNCH & TRAVEL TO BASE
1:00 PM - ARMY COURSE
3:00 PM - END OF DAY



Gemma Heaft, Community Engagement Manager

community@townsvillefire.com.au

0406 908 569

ATTENDEE INFORMATION

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOP #1

Skybox 4 & 5
Townsville Stadium
40-48 Murray Lyons Cres,
Annandale QLD 4814

Day one - 9:15am in skybox 4 for check-in and introduction - don't be late!

Day two - 9:15am in skybox 4 for check-in and start - don't be late!



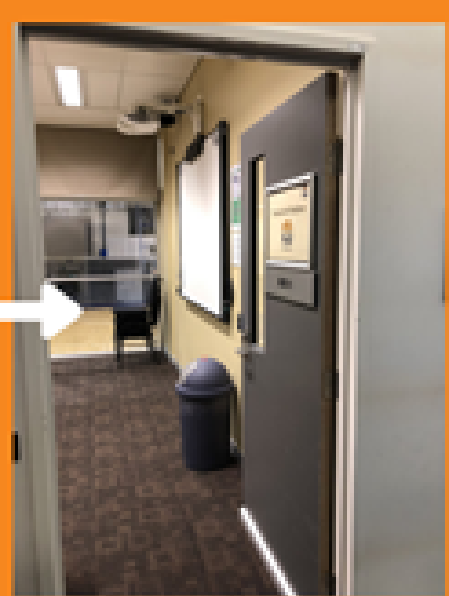
HOST INFORMATION

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOP #1

Skybox 4 & 5
Townsville Stadium
40-48 Murray Lyons Cres,
Annandale QLD 4814

**Please arrive 10-15 minutes
 before your session starts**

- find a park
- enter via front doors to stairs or elevator for top level
- set up for session



MOREHEAD MEALS - ALTHEA PROJECTS

5 MEALS FOR \$25

HOMECOOKED MEALS DELIVERED TO YOU

0419 624 267

meals@altheaprojects.org.au



[moreheadmealstsv](https://www.facebook.com/moreheadmealstsv)

46-48 Morehead Street St, South Tsv



Morehead Meals is the beginning of a multi-levelled social enterprise connecting our community through affordable, ethical, healthy and delicious pre-made frozen meals that can be collected directly from our kitchen in South Townsville or delivered by our to your home or workplace within 20km of the CBD. By purchasing meals from us you are directly contributing to a healthier, resilient, and more connected Townsville.

Althea Projects knows that human connection plays a massive role in all our lives and through the Morehead Meals program we aim to connect with some of Townsville's vulnerable population through the power of good food and conversation when delivering meals. When you purchase meals wouldn't it be nice to know that you are helping someone in need? Money from each meal purchase will be reinvested back into Morehead Meals to assist us to grow the enterprise.

www.altheaprojects.org.au



HOPE IN A SUITCASE HAS ARRIVED IN TOWNSVILLE!



BRINGING HOPE AND LOVE TO CHILDREN & YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE & OUT-OF-HOME-CARE ACROSS OUR COMMUNITY

Founded in NSW, Hope in a suitcase Australia has recently expanded into Queensland and has now arrived in Townsville!

At Hope in a Suitcase, our aim is to provide a 'suitcase of hope' to children & young people entering or living in foster care or out-of-home-care.

When children are removed from their home in an emergency situation, they usually come into care with only the clothes on their back, or a plastic bag with a few items of clothing shoved into it in a hurry. It is a traumatic experience for them and our aim is to work with local foster care agencies to ensure each child & young person receives a suitcase, filled with new clothing, toiletries, pyjamas, something to cuddle, a book to read, puzzles or colouring-in books (something fun to help take their minds off the trauma they are going through and give them a little bit of joy and something of their very own).

The suitcase is theirs to take with them, wherever their journey may take them as sadly, many of them will move from placement to placement until they are reunified with their families or they find their permanent home.

Rather than carrying a plastic bag of belongings which can break and is quite humiliating, they will have a lovely new suitcase to keep their belongings safe and give them a sense of dignity when moving on to their next home.

We want these children & youth to know they matter, they are loved, and they are worthy of more than a plastic bag!

To see the impact we are having, and to find out how you can help us, please visit our facebook page - Hope in a Suitcase - North Queensland Region and check out our website! *Let's do this Townsville!!*





LET'S GO!

No-Cost training for enrolled * participants
to prepare for the world of work

gain 'soft-skills'
Work Ethics
Learner Licence
Driving Lessons

study either
Cert II Business
OR
Cert II Retail

* 15 - 19 year olds * eligibility criteria applies

Contact Christine @ IN-STeP
1800 02 18 28

Let's Go! is one of seven programs that make
up the Queensland Government's Skilling
Queenslanders for Work initiative.



GET SET FOR WORK

Referral Form

PARTICIPANT DETAILS

Name:

Address (Street & Suburb):

Phone:

Email:

Eligibility:

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- * 15 - 19 years old
- * Priority given to those that have left school

Qualification:

QUALIFICATION CHOICE

- * Cert II Retail OR;
- * Cert II Business OR;
- * Cert II Hospitality

Referral Source Name/Contact: _____

Send referrals to IN-STeP via Email; in-step@in-step.com.au

This training is proudly funded by the Queensland Government
through its Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative.

BURDEKIN REGION FOSTER & KINSHIP CARERS

CARER CATCH UP

**April 15th, 2021
10:00am-12:00pm**

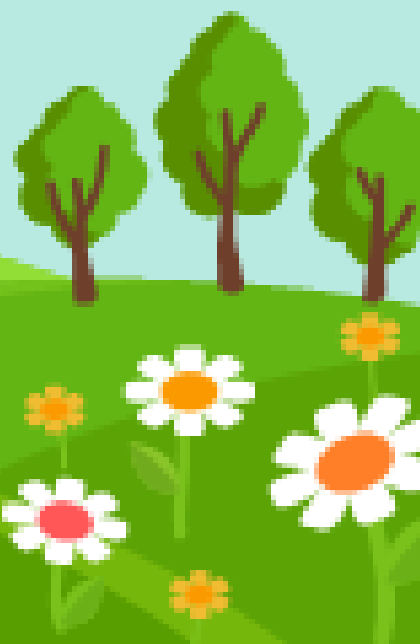
**HOMEHILL SWIMMING POOL
11TH AVENUE, HOMEHILL**

**RSVP LENA: 4779 3332
OR SONIA: 0406 380 654**

**NOTE: WE WILL PROVIDE DRINKS AND
SNACKS**



**YOU'RE
INVITED**



Carers Support Group

Facilitated by Althea Projects - Shared Family Care

Are you a general or kinship carer? If so, you are invited to attend Shared Family Care's Carer Support Group. Meet other carers, enjoy a relaxed morning tea, hear from Shared Family Care staff who will be able to assist you and participate in facilitated discussions and training. The support group is co-facilitated by two regular staff members from Shared Family Care.

Venue: Shared Family Care - Level 1, 296 Ross River Road, Aitkenvale
Time: 9:30am - 11:30am
Dates: Tuesday 23 March and Thursday 1 April, 2021

Please note that others, including children and family members and agency staff may attend.



Althea
PROJECTS

To find out more and to register:

Email: admin@altheaprojects.org.au

Phone: 4779 3332

Facebook: SFC Carers Support



Statement of Commitment

To Queensland's foster and kinship carers

Purpose

This Statement of Commitment (Statement) confirms the commitment of the Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs (Child Safety) and Queensland peak child protection agencies (partner agencies) to work together with Queensland's foster and kinship carers to ensure the safety, wellbeing and belonging of children and young people placed in their care.

The Statement seeks to fulfil the legislative requirement under the *Child Protection Act 1999*, section 7(h), for the Chief Executive to negotiate and review a statement of commitment between the State and organisations with an interest in the care of children under this Act that includes the provision of support and resources by Child Safety to approved carers.

Through this Statement, participants acknowledge their shared responsibility for children and young people in care and the unique role foster and kinship carers have as volunteers in this partnership.

Queensland's child protection system relies on foster and kinship carers volunteering their homes and their care and this Statement outlines a collective commitment to that care being enduring, fulfilling and able to meet the needs of children and young people.

Principles

- Child Safety, partner agencies and foster and kinship carers will work together to ensure the safety, wellbeing and best interests of a child or young person are paramount, both through childhood and for the rest of the child or young person's life.
- Children and young people will receive care consistent with the Charter of Rights for children and young people in care, including the right to know and maintain a connection with their family, culture, traditions, language and community.
- Foster and kinship carers will be supported to provide care consistent with the Statement of Standards in the *Child Protection Act 1999*.
- The five elements of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle under the *Child Protection Act 1999*, section 5C, will be applied to all the processes, decisions and actions undertaken for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people, including the provision of support for carers, caring for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people.
- Consistent with the *Our Way: A generational strategy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families*, we will support mechanisms for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, families, communities and organisations to participate in and drive decision-making about the safety and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.
- Child Safety, partner agencies and foster and kinship carers will act and make decisions in a way that is compatible with human rights and obligations under the *Human Rights Act 2019*.
- Each child or young person in care will be given the opportunity, and support, to participate in the decisions that affect their life.
- Kin will be considered as a first option should a child or young person be unable to live safely with their parents or guardians.
- Foster and kinship carers will receive and should expect, support that will help them provide a safe and caring environment in which the needs of children and young people are met.

- Foster and kinship carers will be respected and recognised as having significant relationships with the children or young people in their care.
- As members of a child or young person's safety and support network and care team, all participants will be treated fairly and equally with courtesy, respect and personal dignity and will be recognised for their unique knowledge and contributions to safety and case planning.

Roles

The Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs (Child Safety)

The role of Child Safety, as the lead child protection agency in Queensland, is to ensure the safety, belonging and wellbeing of children and young people. When children or young people are unable to safely live with their own parents or guardians, Child Safety will place children and young people in a care environment that best meets their needs by:

- ensuring the care provided to children in care is consistent with the requirements of the *Child Protection Act 1999*, including:
 - Statement of Standards (section 122)
 - Charter of Rights for a child in care (Schedule 1)
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle (section 5C)
- consulting with children and young people and supporting them to participate in all the decisions affecting their lives
- actively supporting and facilitating the participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and communities in the processes, decisions and actions about the safety and wellbeing of their children in accordance with the five elements of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle
- working with parents to address concerns so children and young people's permanent care is, wherever possible, provided by their parents
- ensuring that where reunification is not possible, concurrent planning allows for a child or young person's safety, belonging and wellbeing to be met through an alternative permanency option that meets the child's legal, relational, physical and cultural needs
- working with non-government, community-based foster and kinship care services to undertake the role of identifying recruitment, training and support of carers
- ensuring placement needs and supports for children are clearly documented, updated and understood through case plans and care agreements.

Foster and kinship care services

The role of foster and kinship care services is to:

- work with Child Safety to identify kinship carers, recruit foster carers and assess, train and support foster and kinship carers
- involve foster and kinship carers in the planning and delivery of training, ensuring it is timely, relevant and culturally appropriate
- advocate for foster and kinship carers' needs and supports
- respond to requests for placements from Child Safety in a timely manner to meet the needs of the child or young person
- respond to foster and kinship carers' requests for supports in a timely manner to meet the needs of the child or young person

- work with Child Safety to assist and support foster and kinship carers to implement and achieve the agreed goals and outcomes of the child or young person's case plan
- provide ongoing support for foster and kinship carers through a range of services and resources
- work with Child Safety to provide access to training, both initial and ongoing
- raise community awareness of the role of foster and kinship carers and encourage people who are interested to seek further information and make application
- advocate for the importance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to be placed with kin
- advocate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to be connected to kin and community.

Foster and kinship carers

The role of foster and kinship carers is to:

- provide a caring environment for children and young people, where their safety, wellbeing and belonging will be provided for, and where children and young people will be supported to remain connected to their family and culture and realise their full potential
- provide care consistent with the Statement of Standards and Charter of Rights for a child in care outlined in the *Child Protection Act 1999*
- ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people are connected to family, community and culture
- participate in the decisions affecting the lives of the children or young people in their care, and share their knowledge and opinions to inform decision making that is in the best interests of the child
- provide feedback to influence the development of, and changes to, the policies that affect foster and kinship care practices
- participate in and support the planning and delivery of training.

Peak bodies and advocacy groups

Peak bodies and advocacy groups have specific roles and functions with respect to approved carers and children and young people, and represent the views of foster and kinship carers and children and young people. These are:

- Queensland Foster and Kinship Care
- PeakCare Queensland
- Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Protection Peak
- CREATE Foundation.

Commitments

This section outlines the responsibilities each participant agrees to undertake as part of this Statement of Commitment to Queensland's foster and kinship carers.

Child Safety commits to:

- work together with foster and kinship carers to ensure children and young people are aware and understand the Statement of Standards and the Charter of Rights and what these mean for them
- provide foster and kinship carers with timely and ongoing information about a child or young person, including information about the child or young person's medical, emotional and developmental needs, to provide a safe, healthy and protected environment for them, the carer and carer's family
- provide information about the child or young person's family to support ongoing connection and where necessary to mitigate any risks from family members who may be distressed or aggrieved by decisions made about the child or young person in their care
- support and facilitate the participation of foster and kinship carers in the decisions affecting the life of the child or young person in their care and have the carer's knowledge and opinions inform decision-making processes to ensure the best interests of the child
- provide specific assistance to non-Indigenous carers caring for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people to help keep the child or young person connected to family, community and culture
- provide culturally appropriate support to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander foster and kinship carers
- consider the foster and kinship carer's household when making decisions regarding the child or young person in their care
- consult foster and kinship carer representatives when developing or changing policies and practices that affect them
- work with foster and kinship care services to undertake open and sensitive recruitment and assessment processes
- provide foster and kinship carers with copies of assessments of allegations involving themselves (including allegations of abuse or neglect)
- where foster and kinship carers have been a party to a process, provide copies of reports, case and other records that are held in Child Safety and/or agency files, such as providing meeting minutes to carers where they have been participants in a meeting
- assist access to records through Right to Information or Administrative Access, if required
- provide clear written goals and expectations for each child or young person through case plans and care agreements
- provide emotional, financial, therapeutic, practical and educational support for both the child or young person placed in their care and the carers themselves
- compensate for deliberate personal injury or damage to property as a result of the foster and kinship carers providing care, in accordance with departmental policies and procedures
- support access to a feedback, complaints or appeals process that is fair, just, equitable and timely

- provide consistency in decision-making and consistent interpretation and application of policy throughout the State
- maintain confidentiality about foster and kinship carers and for the child or young person in their care consistent with Child Safety policies and procedures
- work together with foster and kinship carers, through concurrent planning to support children and young people to achieve permanent care arrangements in childhood within legislative timeframes recognising that reunification with parents is the first preference for permanency in any child or young person's life
- work together with foster and kinship carers to support young people to transition to adulthood, recognising that this is a developmental process which is not achieved simply because the young person reaches 18 years of age
- work together with families and foster and kinship care services to identify and support kinship carers
- work with foster and kinship care services to meet the counselling needs associated with the caring responsibilities of foster and kinship carers
- work together with foster and kinship care services to support carers connect with a foster and kinship care service in a timely manner.

Queensland's child protection peak agencies commit to:

- work together to promote the implementation of Statement of Standards, Charter of Rights for a child in care and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle
- promote the role of foster and kinship carers throughout their networks and undertake to raise community awareness of the role of foster and kinship carers
- support the connection and positive influence foster and kinship carers have in the lives of children and young people in care, and those with a care experience
- advocate for policy and practice that meets the needs of foster and kinship carers, children and young people.

This section acknowledges the commitment all foster and kinship carers make when they volunteer to meet the needs of children and young people in care.

Queensland's foster and kinship carers commit to:

- provide a safe, caring and stable environment, where appropriate positive behaviour is modelled, and encouraged
- support and encourage the participation of the child or young person in the development of the placement agreement, the case plan and in the ongoing decisions that affect their life
- support and encourage ongoing relationships with the child or young person's family in a way that is safe and consistent with the current case plan
- keep documents and other records belonging to the child or young person safe at all times and help develop records of their life journey
- encourage and support the child or young person to participate in activities that enhance their self-esteem and general wellbeing
- actively support and facilitate the child or young person's cultural needs, cultural identity and connectedness
- being actively involved in the various activities and forums associated with the particular child or young person in their care, as well as in activities related to their role as a foster or kinship carer

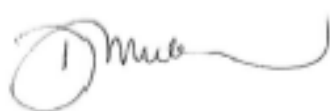
- actively engage in training and ongoing support specific to providing care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children
- work with Child Safety and foster and kinship care services to support the child or young person throughout the duration of the child or young person's placement, during planned conclusion or change of a placement, including reunification, in the best interest of the child or young person
- maintain confidentiality about the child or young person, their family and their circumstances
- ensure the child will receive positive guidance when necessary to help them change inappropriate behaviour using methods approved by Child Safety
- advocate on behalf of the child or young person for the resources and services required to ensure their full potential is reached
- decline care arrangements considered inappropriate for their family and circumstances
- notify their foster and kinship service or Child Safety of a change in their circumstances that impacts on their care of the child or young person
- request support in a timely way to avoid the escalation of negative events and encourage the child or young person to do the same
- actively participate in the approval and re-approval process and the development of both the foster carer agreement, the placement agreement and case plan for any child in their care
- seek out opportunities for further training and to make their training needs known to Child Safety or their foster and kinship care service
- implement protective behaviours and positive behaviour supports within the home
- stay informed and ensure that policies, practices and procedures are followed
- ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people are connected to family, community and culture.

Agreement

This statement has been prepared collaboratively and reflects the shared commitment of all parties to an effective and respectful partnership for the benefit of children and young people in care. The Statement of Commitment:

- acknowledges and promotes the critical role of approved foster and kinship carers as part of a network or team providing quality care
- recognises the unique role foster and kinship carers play as volunteers in that network or team
- describes the roles and responsibilities of approved foster and kinship carers, Child Safety and foster and kinship care service staff.

All parties share the responsibility for promoting the Statement and constantly seeking ways to ensure that it is meaningful in our day-to-day work.



Ms Deidre Mulkerin
Director General
Department of Children, Youth Justice
and Multicultural Affairs



Mr Bryan Smith
Executive Director
Queensland Foster and Kinship Care Inc



Lindsay Wegener
Executive Director
PeakCare Queensland Incorporated



Garth Morgan
Chief Executive Officer
Queensland Aboriginal and Torres
Strait Islander Child Protection Peak

Glossary

Queensland's child protection peak bodies undertake a critical role in the advocacy, representation, co-design and delivery of statutory child safety services in Queensland.

Queensland Foster and Kinship Care

The role of Queensland Foster and Kinship Care (QFKC) is to inform, support, represent and advocate for foster and kinship carers and the children and young people for whom they care. Membership of QFKC is open to all carers, interested organisations and individuals. QFKC receives specific funding to support a Foster Care Advocacy and Support Team (FAST) program. Delegates in this team are available to provide advice, support and advocacy services to individual carers or groups of carers throughout the State. QFKC also contributes to the professional development of foster and kinship carers and staff of Child Safety and foster and kinship care services.

PeakCare Queensland

The role of PeakCare Queensland, as a peak body for child protection and related family support services in Queensland, is to provide an independent and impartial voice representing and promoting matters of interest to the non-government sector. This includes being involved in sector leadership, advocacy, policy development and planning and supporting its member organisations to develop and deliver quality services for the safety and wellbeing of children, young people and their families. PeakCare's member organisations are funded to provide services for children, young people and their families including prevention and early intervention services, intensive family support, child protection services, foster and kinship care and residential care services. PeakCare works in partnership with its members, Child Safety, Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Protection Peak (QATSICPP), QFKC and CREATE Foundation.

Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Protection Peak

The role of Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Protection Peak (QATSICPP) is to improve the safety and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, young people and their families. QATSICPP provides leadership in advocacy and the development of policies, strategies and programs to resource, support and strengthen the capacity and capability of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled child protection agencies throughout Queensland. QATSICPP works in partnership with key stakeholders including State and Commonwealth governments, other peak groups and community agencies to develop a collaborative approach to improving the safety and overall wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, young people and families in Queensland.

To minimise the risk of any misinterpretation of the following terms, their specific meanings in this document are outlined below.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle outlined in the *Child Protection Act 1999*, section 5C is applied when administering the *Child Protection Act 1999* when working with Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander children and families. Decisions about

an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander child must be made in a way that upholds the five elements of the Child Placement Principle:

- Prevention — that each Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child has the right to be brought up within their own family and community.
- Participation — that an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child, their parents and their family, have the right to participate in all child protection decisions affecting them.
- Partnership — that Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander peoples have the right to participate in significant decisions under the *Child Protection Act 1999* about Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander children, including the design and delivery of programs and services.
- Placement — that if an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander child is to be placed in care, priority must be given to being placed with a member of the child's family group and if this is unable to occur then placement must follow the hierarchy of placement.
- Connection — that an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander child has a right to be supported to develop and maintain a connection with the child's family, community, culture, traditions and language, especially children placed with non-Indigenous carers.

Approved carers

The *Child Protection Act 1999* recognises three types of approval:

1. Kinship carers are approved to care for a specific child or young person, or children who are members of their extended family, or with whom they have a pre-existing significant relationship.
2. Foster carers are approved to care for any child or young person in the custody or guardianship of the Chief Executive.
3. Provisionally approved carers are applicants wishing to become an approved foster or kinship carer, who initially receive a provisional certificate of approval. An applicant will only be provisionally approved to allow placement of a specific child in circumstances where:
 - the person has been provisionally assessed as suitable to care for that child
 - it is not possible, or not in the child's best interests, for the child to be placed in the care of an approved kinship carer, approved foster carer, entity conducting a departmental care service or licensee (*Child Protection Act 1999*, section 136A).

The Statement of Standards

The *Child Protection Act 1999* and the *Child Protection Regulation 2011* are the key laws that regulate how the government responds to children and young people in need of care and protection.

Foster carers and kinship carers are required to provide a level of care which is consistent with the Statement of Standards outlined in Section 122 of the *Child Protection Act 1999*.

Child Safety, non-government foster and kinship care services, and foster and kinship carers are responsible for ensuring that children and young people are cared for in a safe and accountable way.

The Statement provides guidelines to ensure that care provided to children and young people meets their immediate and ongoing needs. The Statement of Standards states that:

- a) the child's dignity and rights will be respected at all times

- b) the child's needs for physical care will be met, including adequate food, clothing and shelter
- c) the child will receive emotional care that allows him or her to experience being cared about and valued, and that contributes to the child's positive self-regard
- d) the child's needs relating to his or her culture and ethnic grouping will be met
- e) the child's material needs relating to his or her schooling, physical and mental stimulation, recreation and general living will be met
- f) the child will receive education, training or employment opportunities relevant to the child's age and ability
- g) the child will receive positive guidance when necessary to help him or her change inappropriate behaviour. Techniques for managing the child's behaviour must not include corporal punishment or punishment that humiliates, frightens or threatens the child in a way that is likely to cause emotional harm
- h) the child will receive dental, medical and therapeutic services necessary to meet his or her needs
- i) the child will be given the opportunity to participate in positive social and recreational activities appropriate to his or her developmental level and age
- j) the child will be encouraged to maintain family and other significant personal relationships
- k) if the child has a disability, the child will receive care and help appropriate to the child's special needs.
- l) the application of the standards of care must take into account what is reasonable, with regard to the length of time the child is in the care of the carer or care service, and the child's age and development.

Human Rights Act 2019

Queensland's *Human Rights Act 2019* protects 23 human rights in law. The *Human Rights Act 2019* protects the rights of everyone in Queensland and requires the Queensland public sector to act and make decisions which are compatible with these rights.

- The *Human Rights Act 2019* requires 'public entities' to consider human rights in all decision-making and action, and only limit human rights in certain circumstances and after careful consideration. When delivering services and interacting with the community, public entities must act compatibly with human rights when making decisions or taking actions
- give proper consideration to human rights when making decisions or taking actions.

These obligations apply to Child Safety staff as employees of a public entity under the *Human Rights Act 2019* and apply to all aspects of decision-making undertaken by Child Safety staff who have a responsibility to respect, protect and promote the human rights of individuals. The obligations also apply to foster and kinship carers considered 'public entities' under the *Human Rights Act 2019*.

PARTNERSHIPS AND SUPPORT



HOPE IN A SUITCASE

has put together and donated suitcases for children in care



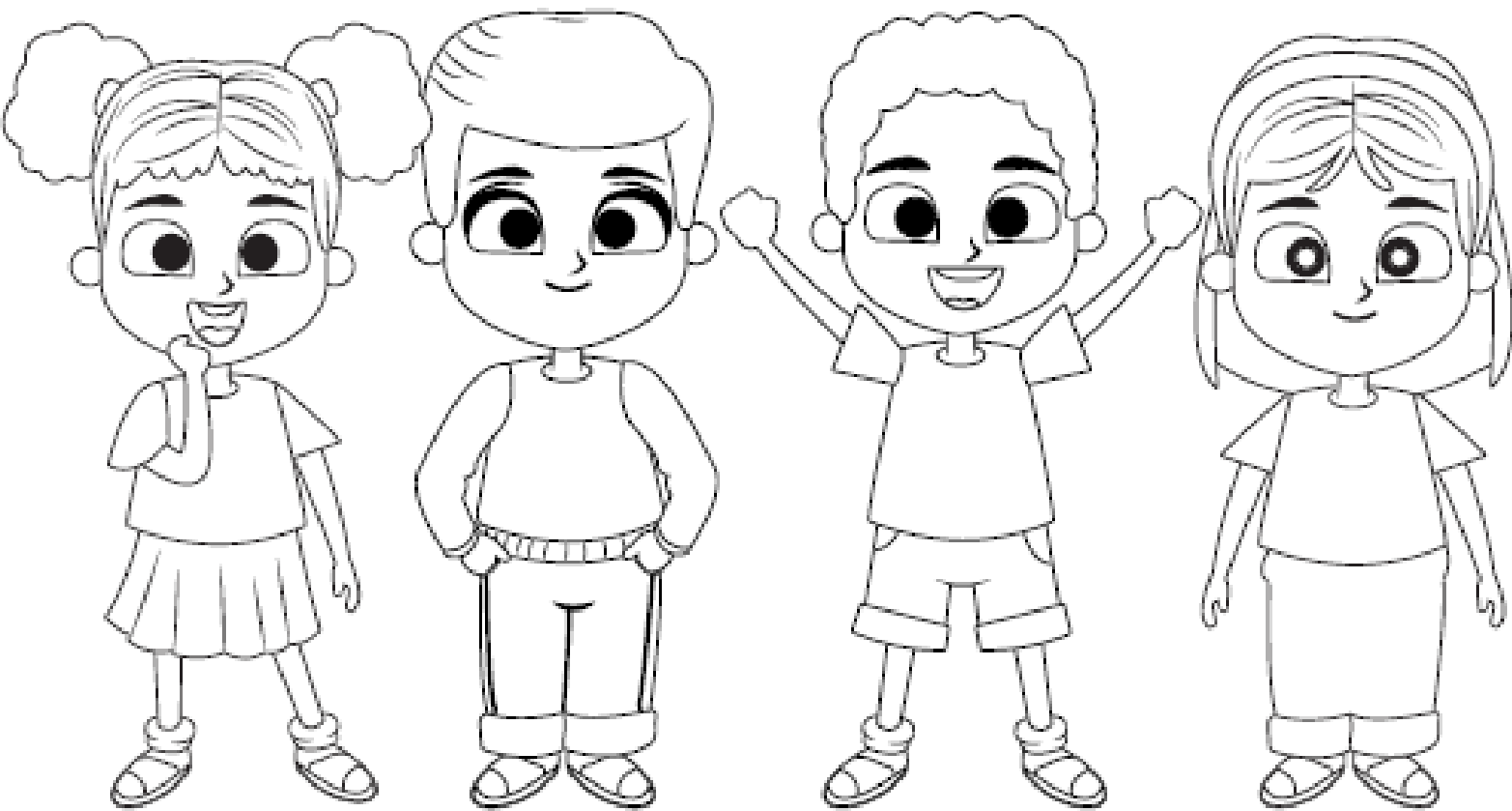
KIDS CORNER





**WE STAND
TOGETHER
AGAINST RACISM
AND
INTOLERANCE.**

FRIENDS OF MANY COLORS AND CULTURES



2021

School calendar

Queensland state schools

DECEMBER 2020 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	JANUARY 2021 S M T W T F S 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	FEBRUARY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	MARCH S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	APRIL S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
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OCTOBER S M T W T F S 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	NOVEMBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	DECEMBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		

School terms	School holidays	Public holidays	Staff development/student free days	Student free days
Part public holiday after 6pm	Student free days for some schools in regional, rural and remote areas			

There are 193 school days in 2021.

Semester 1, 2021 commences for teachers on 21 January and for students on 27 January, 2021.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

Staff professional development days for teachers are 21 and 22 January, 15 and 16 April and 3 September 2021. Schools are able to decide when they undertake the required hours for professional development for the flexible days, as long as they are on the flexible days, in the school holidays or out of school hours.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Queensland public holidays are set by the Industrial Relations Minister.

Public holidays for local show days are not shown due to diversity of dates across the state.

FINAL DATES FOR STUDENT ATTENDANCE

19 November is the final date for Year 12 attendance for receipt of a Senior Statement. 26 November is the final date for student attendance in Years 10 and 11.

Some schools in regional, rural and remote areas will close for the summer holidays on 3 December.

The information in this calendar was correct at the time of publication but may be subject to change.

For more information and the latest version of this calendar, visit

www.education.qld.gov.au



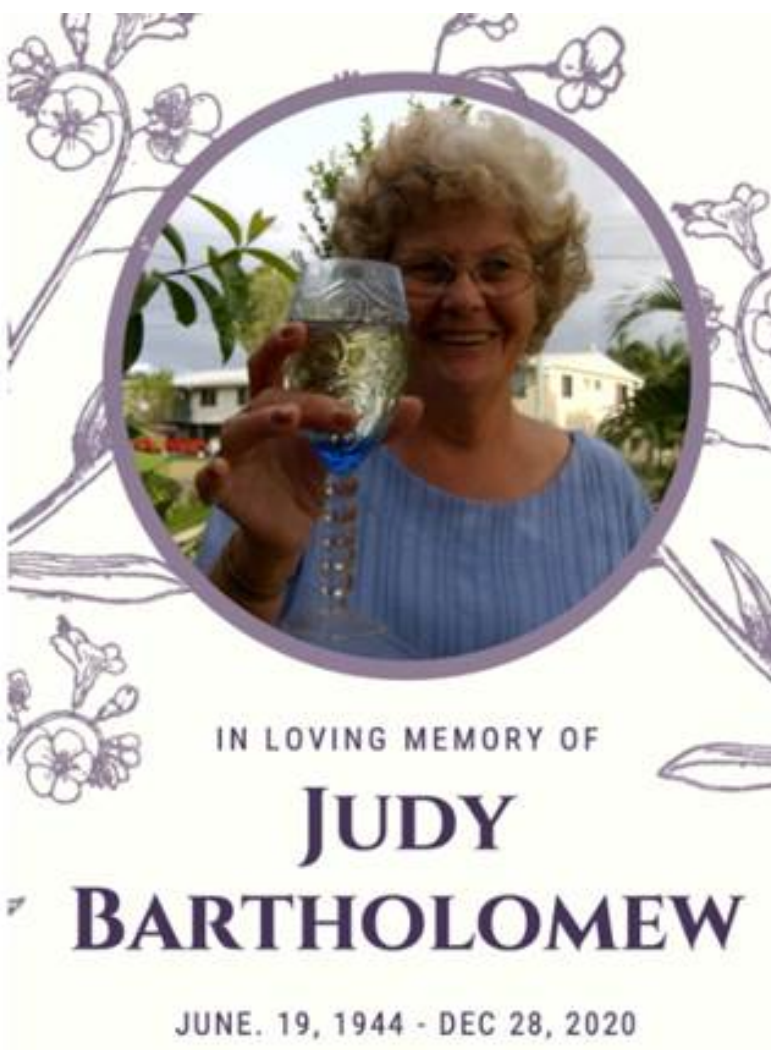
**Queensland
Government**

On behalf of Althea Projects Shared Family Care,

We send our deepest condolences to Judy Bartholomew's family and friends.

We want to thank you for all your hard work and dedication.

Thank you for helping children every day.



On behalf of Althea Projects Shared Family Care,

We send our deepest condolences to Charmaine Garrard's family and friends.

We want to thank you for all your hard work and dedication.

Thank you for helping children every day.

Date of Funeral: 08/01/2021

GARRARD, Charmaine Theresa

Late of Black River. Passed away peacefully on Wednesday 23rd December, 2020 at home surrounded by her Loving Family. Beloved Wife of Darryl (Joe). Much Loved Mother, Mother-in-Law and Foster Mother of David and Jo-Ann, Lee-Ann and Brian, Malissa and Royce, Amanda and Lee, Daniel, David and Courtney, Melissa and Nick, Tiffany and Aaron, Kyria, Davina, and Wilfred. Cherished Grandma and Adored Great Grandmother of their Respective Families. CHARMAINE will be sadly missed by her Brothers and Sisters and their Families, their Extended Families and her many Friends.



Aged 71 Years
"Forever In Our Hearts"

All Relatives, Friends and Extended Families are respectfully invited to attend a CELEBRATION OF CHARMAINE'S LIFE at the Ryan Community Centre, Morindo Drive Kirwan THIS FRIDAY 8TH JANUARY, 2021 at 1:30 pm. The Cortège will then proceed to Belgian Gardens Cemetery for Committal and Interment.

DEAR CARERS,

**ON BEHALF OF EVERYONE AT SHARED FAMILY CARE, WE
WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HARD
WORK, SUPPORT AND DEDICATION THROUGHOUT THE
BEGINNING OF 2021. WE WISH YOU A HAPPY EASTER
AND WE HOPE THAT YOU ENJOY THE EASTER BREAK.**

**THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM 5PM THURSDAY
APRIL 1ST AND WILL REOPEN 9AM TUESDAY APRIL 6TH.**

**FOR ANYTHING URGENT DURING THIS TIME PLEASE
CONTACT 0418 150 229.**

