



Supporting families with children in care

FINFORMATION

The Family Inclusion Network of WA acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land and the Noongar Nations; we honour and pay respect to elders and their people, past and present, and walk together in reconciliation.

Welcome to the *Child Protection Week* edition of the Fin WA Newsletter.

National Child Protection Week: 6 - 12 September 2020

"If a society values its children, it must cherish their parents."

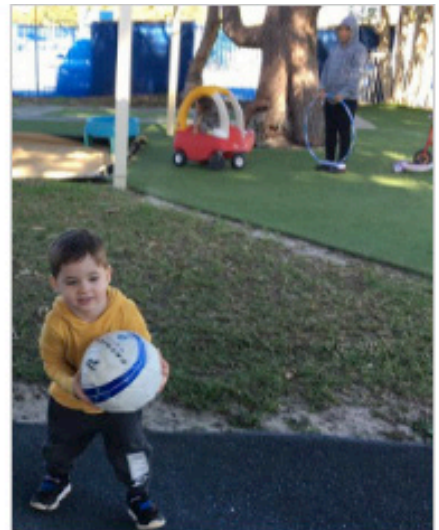
John Bowlby

During this coming Child Protection Week we recognise that children cannot be seen in isolation from their families, and their communities. We know that to raise thriving children we need to consider the whole context that children are living in, and to build stronger communities with higher levels of social inclusion. We know there is an interrelationship between risk factors for children - including poverty, unemployment, substance abuse, domestic violence and mental health. And that children thrive when their parents have the support, and information they need to navigate life's choppy waters.

Fin WA's mission is to have a child protection system that is respectful and inclusive of parents, families and community as key stakeholders.

The weekly 'Bringing Up Great Kids' Playgroup supports families in their parenting journey, and provides a space to practice the concepts from the Bringing Up Great Kids workshops. This is a safe, engaging and interesting play space for children to encourage all areas of development. Parents have wonderful opportunities to have fun, connect and enjoy time with their child, and receive help and support with children's play, learning and development.

Every Wednesday in school terms at Sudbury Community House.
Contact Jo or Suzi on: 0401 839 766.



Art and Support Space

Every Friday morning at Fin WA is an art/support space for families to relax with cake, conversation and creativity.

Some of our activities have been to make home-made lip balm and moisturisers, play with clay, paint mini canvases, and pot succulents to take home.





Pamper Mornings

A few times a year, we offer a special pamper morning to just relax and to practice self-care, thanks to our wonderful volunteers.

Our first pamper morning was held in July, and included shoulder massages, hand treatments, art activities and potting succulents.

We were treated to some delicious morning tea, as we enjoyed the warm winter sunshine, and good conversation with other families.

Our volunteers shared their skills and interests including the relaxing art of zen doodling, and painting nails



Our next Pamper Morning will be held during child protection week:

Friday 4th September

10am - 12 noon

Phone Jacque for more information

0411 032 308

Fin WA is excited to be part of the Pilot Court within the Perth Children's Court which began operating in August. The Pilot Court is a project aimed at families involved in protection and care matters who do not have an extensive history of involvement by child protection authorities.

The court is seeking to provide a more responsive, flexible, engaging approach with families - provided by having one magistrate, appointments and commitment from all those involved to reach more positive outcomes for children.

Fin WA is providing both a part-time Family Partner (peer mentor) to assist a part time Advocate to work alongside parents and family members in the court setting.

For more information about the background to the Pilot Court, please see:

https://www.childrenscourt.wa.gov.au/_files/Discussion_Paper_PnC.pdf

Save The Date:

Fin WA AGM

Tuesday 20th October 2020

We would love to see you there as we review our year.

We are so pleased that Family Partner and Volunteer Training has recommenced, and are looking forward to working with this wonderful group of 7 people over the coming months. We know the incredible value of the perspective of lived experience for families, as well as for our organisation.

These lovely images are from the *Valuing Children Initiative*:

see their website for more details about the campaign.

@Sasha Mortimore Photography



HELP ME HAVE A VOICE



Valuing
Children
— INITIATIVE —



#valuingchildren ♥

