



INFORMATION SHEET 3



Principal Child Protection Practitioner

INFORMATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE PROFESSIONALS

A Principal Child Protection Practitioner is an experienced practitioner employed by the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services and based at each Family and Child Connect.

The Principal Child Protection Practitioner works collaboratively with local government and nongovernment service providers to support the earlier and more effective intervention with children and families who have been referred for help. The Principal Child Protection Practitioner provides consultancy and advice on child protection matters, as well as education on statutory child protection processes and responsibilities.

Responsibilities

The Principal Child Protection Practitioner is responsible for:

- providing a case consultation service to the Family and Child Connect on complex cases and ensuring cases that may require statutory intervention are referred to Child Safety when necessary
- providing professional child protection advice and guidance in accordance with Child Safety policies and procedures, statutory responsibilities, Child Safety objectives and current trends
- building the child protection expertise of the Family and Child Connect and other government and non-government

organisations through training and professional development initiatives

- supporting the implementation of the Child Protection Guide by providing training and education to schools, police and health professionals
- performing a cross-sector coordination role to enhance collaboration between Child Safety and other government and non-government service providers
- establishing and maintaining effective working relationships, and actively participating in meetings with Family and Child Connect and other government and nongovernment service providers, as a representative of Child Safety.

Family and Child Connect service locations

A Principal Child Protection Practitioner will be located in each of the 17 Family and Child Connect services to be established across Queensland.

Family and Child Connect are now operating in the following catchments:

- Beenleigh/Bayside (service provided by The Benevolent Society)
- Brisbane North, South and South-West (service provided by Kurbingui Youth Development, Indigenous Family & Child Support Services and Mercy Community Services)



- Browns Plains/Beaudesert (service provided by Mercy Community Services)
- Cairns (service provided by Act for Kids, Community Services Tablelands, Community Support Centre Innisfail and Warringu Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation)
- Gold Coast (service provided by Act for Kids)
- Ipswich (service provided by Kummara Association)
- Logan (service provided by The Benevolent Society)
- Mackay (service provided by Act for Kids, C&K and Girudala Community Co-operative Society)
- Maryborough/Bundaberg (service provided by Churches of Christ Care)
- Moreton Bay (service provided by Mercy Community Services)
- Rockhampton/Gladstone/Emerald (service provided by UnitingCare Community)
- South Burnett (service provided by South Burnett CTC)
- Sunshine Coast including Gympie (service provided by Act for Kids)
- Toowoomba with a satellite service in Roma (service provided by Mercy Community Services/Lifeline Darling Downs)
- Townsville (service provided by Mercy Community Services/Palm Island Community Company).

In 2016, the final rollout of Family and Child Connect will deliver services in Cape York/Torres Strait and Mount Isa/Gulf.

Further information

For more information about Family and Child Connect, email the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services at faccandifssupport@communities.qld.gov.au or go to the Family and Child Connect website www.familychildconnect.org.au