

Parenting Connection WA

Supporting parents in WA communities

The Parenting Partnership Coordinator is working under the umbrella of Parenting Connection WA. AnglicareWA is the lead agency for this program in the Kimberley funded by the Department of Communities.

Purpose

To work with communities and service providers to provide opportunities for parents to improve their skills, knowledge, capabilities and confidence in providing a safe and nurturing environment for their children to grow and flourish.

Parenting Connection WA aims to achieve this by:

- Provide information sessions to parents and caregivers in the community. This may be in the form of information workshops for large and small groups.
- Individual consultations.
- Discussion forums where parents can discuss with other parents the challenges in their parenting, facilitated by the Parenting Partnership Coordinator.
- Developing partnerships with community organisations and service providers to provide a coordinated approach to the parenting needs of the community.
- Identifying funding opportunities and grant applications.
- Developing a Local Area Partnership Group to provide direction for the provision of parenting services in the Kimberley region and allocate funds to partner agencies to deliver quality parenting services.

What might this look like?

1. Information workshops for parents may look at the following topics.
 - Early brain development and the importance of attachment.
 - Developmental milestones of children and what this means to parenting.
 - Understanding children's behaviour and what can be done about it.
 - The importance of routines.
 - Sleeping.
 - Toilet Training.
 - Language development and what this might mean for bilingual or multilingual families.
 - The role of fathers and tips for fathers.



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- Bullying.
 - Cyber - safety.
 - Attendance at school.
 - Keeping your children safe – Protective Behaviours
 - Respectful relationships and sexual health in teens.
2. Group discussion forums will provide opportunities for parents to share ideas and successes. Facilitation of these discussions will provide opportunities for parents to identify goals and strategies to achieve their goals. This can also link with information workshops.
 3. Individual Consultation provides parents with the opportunity to discuss on an individual basis issues they may be having in parenting and identifying strategies to address these issues. This may also involve the referral onto other services through the identification of the needs of the family.
 4. The Parenting Partnership Coordinator can work with local community agencies to develop a shared vision for the provision of parenting services to the community. This may involve the joint application for grants to provide a specific coordinated service to the community. This may also involve working in partnership toward a common goal.
 5. The development of a Local Area Planning Group comprising of members from service providers, parents and local agencies will provide the direction of the parenting service for the Kimberley Region. Funding for the provision of services and brokerage to other agencies for the provision of parenting services is coordinated through this body.

With all these points in mind, you may wish to see how Parenting Connection WA may be able to work with your agency to support parents and ultimately improve the outcomes for children in your community.

