

2026 January Newsletter

Gold Coast



<https://qldflpn.org.au/directory/gold-coast/>

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- New social media laws for children
- Emerging minds - Navigating smart phone use with children
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- Resources and links - Atsils, Act for kids, Penguin, Mensline, Legal Aid, DVPC, Interrelate, Accoras,
- Save the date - Gala 13th May 2026

Steering Committee Members :

- Jake Coates - Thriving Multicultural Communities
- Molly Dragiewicz - Griffith University
- Lucy Gregory - DVPC
- Anne Halliday - ATSILS
- Vanessa Hernandez - Australian Family Lawyers
- Kate Keating (Chair) - Keating Lehn Solicitors
- Tracy Smyth - Act for Kids
- Jan Squires - Centacare
- Libby Taylor - Bond University



Gold Coast

Family Law Pathways Network

Invites you to our start of year Networking get-together

WHEN: Wednesday 25th February 4:30pm-6:30pm

WHERE: 56 Davenport street, Southport 4215

BRING: Marketing material & a brief 2 min pitch to introduce your service

RSVP : Sian Graham

cfrs.gcflpn@bne.centacare.net.au



centacare
Care is our calling.



Information Sheets - Police Protection **Directions (PPD)**

The Domestic and Family Violence Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2025 (Amendment Act) was passed by the Queensland Legislative Assembly on 28 August 2025.

Among other legislative amendments, the Amendment Act introduced a framework for Police Protection Directions (PPDs), which are a 12-month direction issued by police, in circumstances where it is not more appropriate for a protection order application to be made to a court.

PPDs will commence state-wide from 1 January 2026.





Supporting children through the new social media age restrictions

New social media laws for children under sixteen are now in effect across Australia, and many young people and their families may be feeling the impact. If your child is upset or frustrated by the change, the most important thing you can do is listen and acknowledge their feelings.

[Click here](#)





**New podcast episode: When is the right time?
Emerging Minds presents navigating smartphone use with children**

When is the right time to give your child a smartphone? What effect can social media have on their health? These are questions many parents ask themselves as their children get older.

In this episode, host Nadia Rossi speaks with Dany Elachi, founder of the Heads Up Alliance, a grassroots organisation supporting parents who want to delay use of smartphones and social media for their children. Dany talks about the complex issue of children's smartphone use and how building a supportive community can help parents navigate challenges.

[Click here](#)



Keeping Kids In Mind

A Course for Parents Experiencing Conflict After Separation

Parents love their children and want the best for them. However, after separation, parenting often gets much tougher. Keeping Kids in Mind is a 5 week course for separated parents who are experiencing on-going conflict.

The course is designed to:

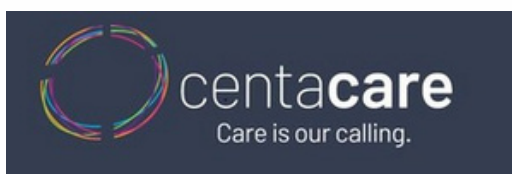
- Assist parents to see through their children's eyes the experience of parental separation.
- Develop greater understanding about how to support children following family separation

The course covers the following topics:

- Grief and Loss after Separation
- The Hidden World of Children
- Rebuilding Resilience
- Bridging the Gap
- Looking Back and Moving Forward

All participants must register their interest in attending the course and participate in a pre-group interview prior to the course. Keeping Kids in Mind is facilitated by qualified and experienced parent educators, mediators and counsellors.

[Click here](#)





Women's
Legal Service Qld

Accessible legal and social justice for a safer future for women and children.

- Child support
- Coercive control
- Divorce and separation
- Domestic violence
- Financial abuse
- First Nations
- General information
- Parenting
- Sexual assault
- Temporary visa program
- Translated resources

[CLICK HERE](#)





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Act for Kids is a for-purpose organisation that delivers evidence-led professional therapy and support services to children and families who have experienced or are at risk of harm.

Act for Kids operates over 34 centres with a team of more than 490 staff from Adelaide all the way up to the Cape York Peninsula.

Our purpose is to help keep kids safe, heal from trauma and lead happy lives. For more information, visit our website [here](#).



The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service (QLD) LTD, is a non-profit, community based organisation funded through a single national mechanism managed by the Queensland Government – Department of Justice and Attorney General to provide [criminal, civil and family law](#) services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians and their families in Queensland.

Supporting Young People - Rights at Court and Basics about the Court Process, Doli Incapax and Adult Crime, Adult Time laws

[Click here](#)



MensLine Australia offers free professional 24/7 telephone counselling support for men with concerns about mental health, anger management, family violence (using and experiencing), addiction, relationship, stress and wellbeing. Call 1300 78 99 78



Penguin supports Parents to be the best no matter what the circumstance. They provide support in an unbiased and neutral way visit - <https://www.penguined.com.au/>

- Supervised Children's contact
- Supervised Changeover
- Parenting Support
- Penguin Hub Club



[Service Directory Gold Coast https://qldflpn.org.au/directory/gold-coast/](https://qldflpn.org.au/directory/gold-coast/)



The link above goes to the FLPN website page. It has a list of Gold Coast Services for Families.

- Child Contact Centres
- Children's Counselling
- Adult and Family Counselling
- Family Support
- Parenting
- Family and Dispute resolution
- Parenting Orders Program
- Legal Support
- Domestic/Family Violence

If you are an Non-Profit Organization working in these sectors and want to be listed please email : CFRS.GCFLPN@bne.centacare.net.au



The Accoras You.nique program provides free, short term (max 6 months) early intervention mental health support to children and young people aged 0-18 in the context of their families.

We are an outreach service, funded by the Department of Social Services. We cover the Gold Coast area and can meet our clients at a place and time that suits them, working with the child or young person to address their mental health needs and keeping in contact with their parents/caregivers along the way.

We focus on emerging signs of mental health concerns such as generalised worries/anxiety, anger, stress management difficulties, difficulties regulating emotions, low self-esteem, concerns regarding changes and transitions, bullying, social skills and friendship/family difficulties.

We provide support by setting goals for improvement, identifying strengths to build self-esteem and confidence, providing techniques on how to manage emotions and working on social skills to help develop positive relationships.

We do not offer family therapy nor are we registered psychologists or NDIS providers. We are unfortunately unable to work with children under the care of the child protection system, in crisis, experiencing complex long-standing mental health challenges or high risk. If the child/young person has experienced DFV, we generally ask that they have received specialist DFV support prior to referring to Accoras you.nique.

Self-referrals are accepted and no mental health care plan is required.

All referrals received are thoroughly assessed by our team on a case-by-case basis.

If this sounds like the type of support you are looking for, please complete our referral form or call our intake coordinator Jill on 0409 982 477 in case of any questions



CHILDREN'S CONTACT CENTRE (CCS)

Coolangatta

Life can bring challenges, especially during times of separation or transition within families. Interrelate's **Children's Contact Service (CCS)** is suitable for children, parents and family members who require support to see one another or to manage those tricky changeovers, whether due to separation, conflict or safety concerns.

Supervised visits provide a space for children to engage with parents and family members who aren't their primary carer, so they can build positive relationships with all their loved ones. Visits can be arranged at a centre, within the community or online.

A **supervised changeover** offers a safe and supportive environment where children can transition between parents without conflict or stress.

Benefits of the CCS

The CCS is designed to foster stability, comfort, and peace of mind for all involved:

- **Safe, Secure & Nurturing.** Acts to minimise conflict, to foster a positive experience. **Neutral & supportive to both parents.** Staff listen and help build foundations of strong co-parenting that works for the long term. **Child-focused.** Supports parents to identify, meet and hear their children's needs and emotions as they adjust in this time of change.

CCS FEES

Supervised contact visit

\$25 per hour per parent*

Supervised changeover

\$5 per parent*

*Concession pricing available. Fees may apply for additional services.

Currently no waitlist

**We support families in
QLD and NSW**

OPENING HOURS

**Monday – Saturday
8am to 8pm**

Scan the QR
code to find out
more or click
the link below
bit.ly/40IAYAA





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Established in 1992, the Domestic Violence Prevention Centre provides a wide range of programs to support women and their children affected by domestic and family violence.

We also work with men who perpetrate domestic violence. Through the Gold Coast Domestic Violence Integrated Response we partner with government agencies, non-government agencies and other women's services to continue to improve responses to domestic and family violence as we work toward achieving our goal of ending violence against women.



Legal Aid is funded by the Australian Government to provide free and subsidised legal assistance.

[CLICK HERE](#)



1800RESPECT is the national online and telephone counselling and support service for people who have experienced, or are at risk of experiencing, sexual assault and /or domestic violence and family violence, their family or friends, and frontline and isolated workers. It is a flagship service under the National Plan to reduce violence women and their children 2010 - 2022 (The National Plan) providing support 24 hours a day, seven days a week.