

A young child with dark hair, wearing a white t-shirt and a colorful patterned helmet, is riding a red tricycle on a paved path in a park. The background shows trees and a blurred park setting.

Early Years

Strategy

2026 – 2029



City of Kwinana kadij kalyakool moondang-ak kaaradj midi boodjar-ak ngala nyininy, yakka wer waabiny, Nyoongar moort. Ngala kadij baalap kalyakoork nidja boodjar wer kep kaaradjiny, baalap moorditj nidja yaakiny-ak wer moorditj moort wer kadij Birdiya wer yeyi.

City of Kwinana acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we live, work and play, the Nyoongar people. We recognise their connection to the land and local waterways, their resilience and commitment to community and pay our respect to Elders past and present.

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This document is available in alternative formats upon request.

Foreword

Thank you to everyone who generously shared their stories, knowledge, skills, and ideas in shaping this Strategy. Your insights and lived experiences have helped us better understand what truly matters to families in Kwinana.

Families have told us that Kwinana is a great place to live. It is a community with a strong sense of belonging, a wide range of support services, engaging events, beautiful natural landscapes, and exciting facilities like the Kwinana Adventure Park. These qualities make our city a wonderful place to raise children.

Our children, especially, have reminded us of what's most important: spending time with friends and family. This sense of connection is especially valuable now, as families experience cost of living pressure and is a timely reminder that some of the best things in life really are free.

We recognise that raising children is a shared responsibility, and it is essential to support everyone who plays a part in this journey.

That's why this Strategy is built around three key focus areas: firstly – children, secondly – parents, caregivers and families and lastly – the community.

With children aged 0 to 4 years making up more than 8 per cent of our population, we have a critical role to play as a Local Government.

Supporting young children and their families is not only a responsibility, it's an investment in the strength and wellbeing of our entire community

Peter Feasey
City of Kwinana Mayor



playing with
my friends



Thank you

We would like to thank Kwinana's Early Years Steering Group and the children, parents, caregivers, services and organisations who shared their knowledge, skills, ideas and experiences to shape this Strategy. We thank the Department of Communities and the Department of Education, who, through the Local Government Australian Early Development Census Grants Program, have provided ongoing support and mentoring. We would also like to thank Same Page Consulting for their open collaboration and commitment to valuing the voices of our diverse community.



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Communities**



Australian
**Early
Development
Census**
An Australian Government Initiative

Child safe organisation

The City of Kwinana aims to empower children and families by creating an environment that is child safe, culturally safe and takes a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse and harm. This commitment is guided by the National Child Safe Principles to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children. Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture.



1. Children and young people are informed about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.
2. Families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing.
3. Equity is upheld and diverse needs respected in policy and practice.
4. People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice.
5. Processes to respond to complaints and concerns are child focused.
6. Staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training.
7. Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.
8. Implementation of the national child safe principles is regularly reviewed and improved.
9. Policies and procedures document how the organisation is safe for children and young people.

What are the early years and why they are important

The Early Years refers to the time during pregnancy through to the age of five and is often referred to as the first 2,000 days. Due to the brain's rapid development, it is the time when it is possible to positively influence a child's development, sense of identity, health, learning, safety, resilience and happiness. Positive experiences, nurturing relationships and a supportive environment shape a child's social skills, emotional wellbeing and cognitive abilities for a lifetime.

About the Kwinana Early Years Strategy

The Kwinana Early Years Strategy 2026–2029 (the Strategy) sets out a bold vision for the City of Kwinana (the City) as a community that wraps around children from the time during pregnancy to age five. Evidence tells us that a child’s experiences during this time have the most impact on shaping outcomes into adulthood. We also know that the most influential person in a child’s life is their primary caregiver. This is why the Strategy focuses as much on support for parents and caregivers as it does on supporting children.

More than 40% of children living in Kwinana have been assessed as at-risk or vulnerable at age five since 2018, according to the [Australian Early Development Census](#) (AEDC). Persistent developmental vulnerability in Kwinana is evident across the census’s five key domains: physical health and wellbeing, social competence, emotional maturity, language and cognitive skills, and communication skills and general knowledge. Kwinana’s proportion of children vulnerable on one or more of these domains surpasses both state and national averages, reflecting a broader pattern of disadvantage within the area.

The most recent AEDC results underscore the importance of targeted, community-driven strategies that respond directly to these vulnerabilities in Kwinana.,

The AEDC data guides local strategy development and the need for collaborative resource allocation. Collecting community perspectives and insights ensures the Strategy development can address the specific needs identified in the AEDC and help Kwinana’s children thrive by improving outcomes in every developmental domain. We understand that some families want or need help with raising children and the City’s Strategy provides a way to focus our collective efforts to make a positive difference. This Strategy outlines our commitment to shared priorities and actions. It will guide how we work together to ensure that children grow up in a safe and supportive environment, and that families are supported every step of the way.

We conducted extensive community consultation, drawing on the knowledge, skills, ideas, and experiences of Kwinana’s parents, caregivers, children, services and organisations. This collaborative approach allows us to build on existing strengths and promote innovative ideas that support young children and their families to thrive.

The City has long been committed to fostering a resilient, inclusive, and thriving community. With a rapidly growing, culturally diverse and relatively young demographic, with 8.3% of Kwinana’s population aged 0–4 years, we want every child in Kwinana to have the best start in life.

The Strategy and the Principles contained within it will guide the development, implementation and monitoring of the Kwinana Early Years Action Plan and support the achievement of key outcomes identified in the Australian Government’s Early Years Strategy 2024–2034.



What is shaping the Early Years Strategy

The Strategy is grounded in a strong foundation of National, State and Local frameworks that shape our shared vision for children and families. These strategies, plans and agreements reflect broad commitments to equity, wellbeing, inclusion and children's rights, and provide the scaffolding for a local approach. They highlight the importance of working early, working together, and working in ways that are place-based and culturally responsive. By aligning with the guiding documents listed below, the Strategy ensures that local actions are connected to a wider system of evidence, accountability and aspiration.

- Australian Early Development Census (AEDC)
- Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY) The Nest
- City of Kwinana's Social Strategy (2021–2025)
- City of Kwinana's Strategic Community Plan (2021–2031)
- Department of Social Services' Early Years Strategy 2024–2034
- National Agreement on Closing the Gap
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child





Working in partnership

The City recognises that it still takes a village to raise a child. Working in partnership with community has been essential in designing this Strategy. Employing Same Page Consulting and taking the time to develop a shared understanding of the importance of working collaboratively, building on existing partnerships and establishing new working relationships underpinned all stages of the consultation process.

Above all else, we value local knowledge, skills and experiences, and actively sought to engage children and those currently raising, working or volunteering with children aged 5 years and under, and their parents and caregivers. By providing a range of opportunities for residents and services to provide their thoughts and ideas, this Strategy reflects the needs and wants of the Kwinana community.

Community voice

Community voice has been central in shaping the Strategy, and has been informed by the lived experiences, insights and aspirations of the communities that impact early childhood development locally.

We listened through:

- Parent and Services Surveys
- Pop up conversations
- Community led conversations
- Children's activities and conversations
- Key Person Conversations
- Steering Group Workshops

Engagement occurred with:

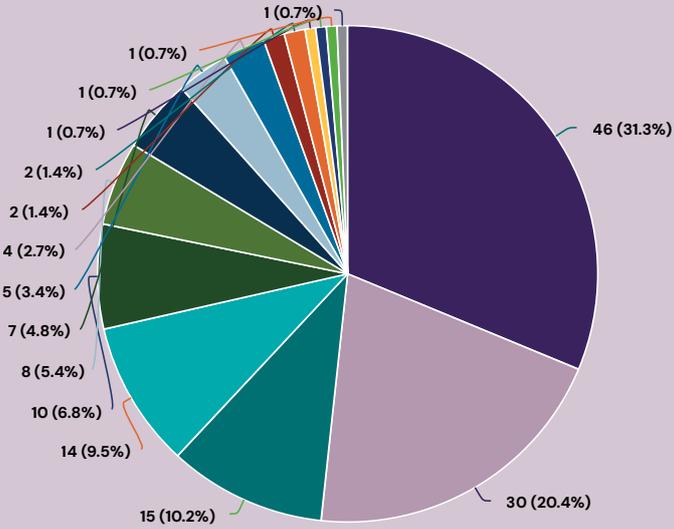
- Bertram Primary School
- City of Kwinana: Coding club, Creches, Library
- Education, Care and Family Network
- Honeywood Primary School pop up
- KEYS to Kindy Playgroup
- KOYA Club
- Medina Aboriginal Cultural Centre
- Moorditj Kulungar Playgroup
- Neighbour Day Bertram
- Ngalla Yorga Waangkan
- North Parmelia Primary School
- Pop up at Adventure Park
- St Vincent's Primary School



Who completed the Community Survey

- WELLARD, WA
- BERTRAM, WA
- ORELIA, WA
- PARMELIA, WA
- WANDI, WA
- MEDINA, WA
- LEDA, WA
- CALISTA, WA
- KWINANA TOWN CENTRE, WA
- KWINANA, WA
- BALDIVIS, WA
- BYFORD, WA
- CASUARINA, WA
- GREENFIELDS, WA
- PERTH, WA

Which suburb do you live in?



How many children under 6 years old do you have?

- 1 child (82)
- 4 children (4)
- 2 children (48)
- 5 children (0)
- 3 children (10)
- Pregnant (0)

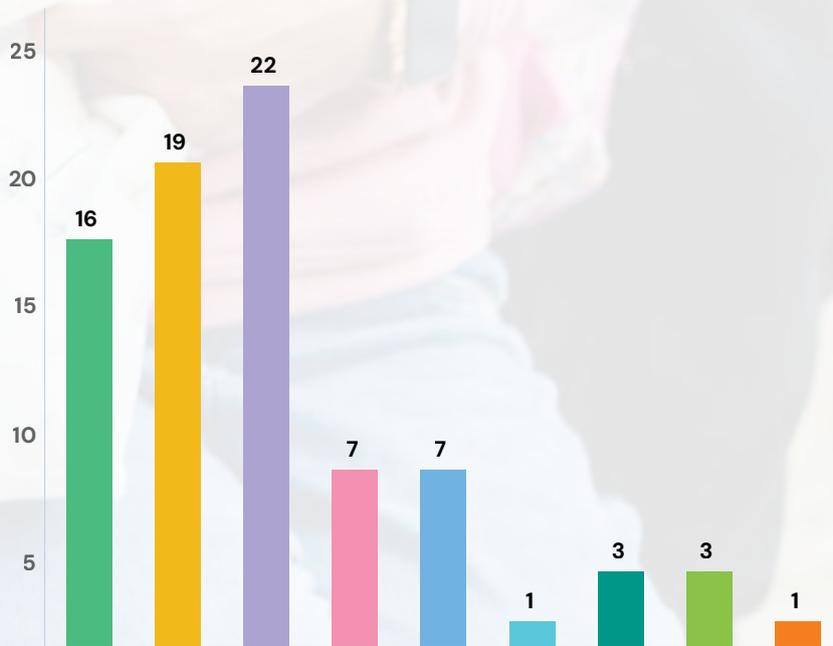
Do your child/children identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?

- Yes 7.2%
- No 92.8%

Do you speak a language other than English at home?

- Yes 24.3%
 - No 75.7%
- Languages spoken at home include Afrikaans, Bahasa Indonesian, Cantonese, Chinese, Filipino, Finnish, French, Gujarati, Hindi, Hausa and Yoruba, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Malayalam, Māori, Philippines, Punjabi, Romanian, Russian, Sinhalese, Spanish, Tagalog, Ilocano, Tamil, Urdu.

Community Services Survey



- I work or volunteer, directly supporting young children living in Kwinana.
- I work or volunteer, directly supporting families of young children living in Kwinana.
- I work for an organisation that supports families of young children living in Kwinana, or young children themselves, but I don't directly work with children or families myself.
- I live in Kwinana. ● I speak a language other than English at home.
- I work for an organisation that supports pregnancy
- None of the Above ● What 'Other' statements apply to you?
- I or my children identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

By the numbers

- Parent and Services Surveys (152 respondents, 660 ideas)
- Services Surveys (42 respondents, 430 ideas)
- Community activities with parents, families, carers (170 ideas)
- Children's activities (200 ideas)
- Community conversations at Medina Aboriginal Cultural Centre, Ngalla Yorga, Moorditj Kulungar Playgroup (97 ideas)
- 2 Steering Group workshops with local services and parents (64 people)

Total: Over 1557 ideas!



What we Heard

When children were asked what they care about, they said,

What Children Care About

Children care deeply about their families and friends, love being creative and active, enjoy nature and adventure, feel joy in special moments and treats, and have big imaginations. Feeling safe, loved, and happy is what matters most.

Most Important People

Parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, cousins, friends and even pets.

Children talked about how these people play with them, look after them, make them feel safe, and help them have fun — like mums who save them from spiders or dads who play games.

Things Children Love to Do

- Creative play like painting, craft, colouring and drawing
- Building and making with LEGO, puzzles or cooking
- Playing inside with toys and outside with neighbours, friends and siblings
- Learning, writing, reading books, counting, or going to the library
- Being quiet or comfy — sleeping, being in pyjamas or just being alone
- Using technology like iPads, coding or watching TV

What Makes Children Happy

- Feeling loved, being cared for, and having fun
- Birthdays, hugs, cuddles, and being with their favourite people
- Soft things like teddies, blankies and pillows
- Food makes children happy — ice cream, lollipops, doughnuts, watermelon, bananas, cheese and crackers; some even love broccoli and gingerbread!

Imagination and Curiosity

- Children spoke about things like rainbows, animals, dinosaurs, superheroes, submarines, planets and geckos
- They love to explore, ask questions, and enjoy colourful, exciting things

Adventures and Being Outdoors

- Going to the beach — swimming, play, walks or sunsets
- Going to parks, skate parks, adventure playgrounds, and riding bikes or scooters
- Holiday adventures — Bali, camping or Disneyland



What we Heard

When parents and caregivers were asked what they wished for their children, they said,

What Parents Wish For Their Children

Parents want their children to grow up happy, healthy, safe, and confident. They hope for strong values, emotional security, a sense of belonging, and opportunities to learn, play, and thrive in their community. Families want their children to feel loved, supported, and financially secure, with access to quality education, safe spaces, and affordable services.

Happiness, Health and Emotional Wellbeing

Parents want their children to be happy, healthy.

- ☞ "Just to be healthy and happy"
- ☞ "A long, happy, healthy life. Full of good experiences and memories"

Moral Character, Respect and Contribution

Parents want their children to grow into kind, respectful and responsible adults.

- ☞ "Good morals and values and to love others and learn to be respectful"
- ☞ "Being a polite adult"

Family Love and Emotional Support

Parents want their children to grow up secure in knowing they are supported emotionally and practically.

- “They grew up happy, I know they are so loved”
- “To have the best start in life, feel supported and safe”

Safety, Security and Freedom from Harm

Parents want their children to grow up in safe homes, streets and communities, protected from crime, harm and social threats.

- “To be and feel safe, at all times”
- “To grow up in a community where the council bothers to spend money on social issues rather than aesthetics”

Confidence, Resilience and Inner Strength

Parents want their children to have the confidence and mental resilience to navigate life's challenges and grow into secure adults.

- “To grow into strong, happy, healthy, capable adults”
- “To have the skills and confidence to live their life well... unashamed of the suburb they grew up in”

Access to Quality Education and Early Learning

Parents want their children to have a good education to give them a good life.

- “That they have opportunities to enquire and learn; being seen and heard”
- “Wish we could have more government high school choices in the Kwinana area”

Play, Exploration and Everyday Joy

Parents want their children to have access to nature, recreation, and fun, everyday joys that make childhood rich and memorable.

- “More play spaces with fences around it with coffee trucks—free coffee”
- “To be able to do more activities + spend time with other kids”



A Sense of Belonging and Connection to Community

Parents want their children to feel part of something, a trusted, inclusive environment where they are known, accepted and socially connected.

- “To be raised into a vital, caring, supportive, empathetic, inclusive community”
- “To have lots of friends and feel safe in the community”
- “For others to accept and understand who they are, not what they have (autism, GDD, ADHD)”

Financial Security and Affordability

Parents want financial relief and affordable services to help them support their children in practical and meaningful ways.

- “That life was more affordable and accessible, make it not so hard!”
- “Set them up correctly financially”

What we Heard

When people were asked what is needed to support children in their Early Years, they said,

What People Are Calling For To Support Children in Their Early Years

Through conversations, surveys and workshops, our community shared a strong and united message: children thrive when families feel supported, neighbourhoods are welcoming, services are easy to access, and every child has opportunities to play, learn and belong.

Safe, Clean and Inclusive Public Spaces

Parks and public spaces that are safe, well-maintained, shaded, and inclusive.

Early Learning and Development

Addressing barriers to school readiness, support for neurodiversity, learning support and more inclusive education approaches.

Affordable and Flexible Early Years Programs

Addressing high cost of childcare, limited weekend programs, and barriers for working parents.

Information, Navigation and System Coordination

Removing barriers to getting help by knowing what's available and how to access or follow up with services.



Parenting Support and Connection

Practical parenting support, connection with other families, and reduced stigma when seeking help.

Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health

Mental health and emotional safety for children and parents, and more child-centred wellbeing supports.



Access to Early Childhood Health and Development Services

Access to developmental services for young children including speech and paediatric care.

Inclusion, Diversity and Cultural Safety

Addressing the impact of racism, stigma, and lack of cultural understanding as barriers to raising children, especially for Aboriginal and multi-cultural families.

Things To Do Together

Free and frequent community activities to come together with parents and children.



Enjoy the Sanger-Egert
version of Baby with
with your baby.

City of Kwinana's role in the early years

The City plays both leadership and enabling roles in the local early years sector.

Our role includes bringing together local services, schools, health providers, and community groups to strengthen collaboration and connection. We also back peer-led and community-based initiatives that reflect the strengths, cultures, and voices of local families.

Importantly, we ask and listen to what families, children and service providers tell us they need, and we use that insight to shape local decisions and speak up for changes that benefit children and families. While we don't set national policies or funding levels, we speak up for local needs, advocating to help ensure local voices are heard by decision-makers.

A child's drawing in blue paint on a white background. Two simple figures are drawn, each with a circular head and a body. They are holding hands. A speech bubble above the figures contains the text 'playing with my sister'. The drawing is positioned in the lower half of the page, overlapping a colorful quilted blanket on the left and a white background on the right.

playing with
my sister

Accessible strategy communication

To ensure the Strategy is accessible to a broad audience, a public and simplified version will be created. This version will be designed specifically for ease of reading, making the core content straightforward and accessible for everyone.

Feedback received during community consultation highlighted the importance of using easy-to-read language. The simplified version will focus on plain English, enabling children, parents, and caregivers to review and understand its contents with ease. The aim is for this information to be deliverable within a concise two-page document, ensuring clarity and accessibility for all stakeholders.

Parents, caregivers, service providers, and organisations shared that strategies often contain overwhelming detail, which can be particularly challenging during periods of vulnerability. This issue is especially relevant when supporting children in their early years. By creating a succinct and easy-to-understand version of the Strategy, the needs of families and support networks experiencing vulnerability will be better addressed, promoting greater engagement and understanding.





Our vision

All children aged zero to five and their families thrive in a connected and caring community and have access to high-quality supports.

Our Guiding Principles

These Principles were developed from the insights provided by the community. They underpin the focus areas and intended outcomes of the Strategy, as well as the subsequent Early Years Action Plan.

Child-Focused

We put children first in everything we do. We listen to what children say to help us make decisions that support them to grow and do well.

Connected to Place

We understand the importance of the local community. Our work is shaped by the communities of Kwinana. We listen to local people so we can build on our strengths and implement new ideas.

Fair and Accessible

We welcome all families. We work to make sure everyone is included, respected, and has access to services that meet their needs.

Inclusive and Respectful of Culture

We respect and celebrate the many cultures, languages, and identities of the community. We work to make sure everyone feels safe, included, and recognised in the spaces, services, and activities they participate in.

Safe

We work to ensure that all children and families feel safe at home and in the community.

Whole Picture Approach

Children's wellbeing is guided, shaped and nurtured by many factors. We use a 'whole picture' approach to understand how different parts of a child's world connect and affect their development. By looking at the bigger picture, we can make better decisions to support children and help them thrive.

Kwinana Early Years Strategy 2025–2028

OUR FOCUS

Children

OUTCOME

Children are happy, healthy, learning, nurtured and safe

COMMITMENT 1

Early childhood development is understood by everyone who contributes to raising children in Kwinana.

COMMITMENT 2

Children access healthcare that assists their development.

COMMITMENT 3

Community spaces are welcoming, safe and child friendly.

OUR FOCUS

Parents, Caregivers and Families

OUTCOME

Parents, caregivers and families are connected and supported.

COMMITMENT 4

Families know what's happening and where to get support.

COMMITMENT 5

Supports and services for young children and their families are accessible and easy to navigate.

COMMITMENT 6

Families are connected to support from other families and community.

COMMITMENT 6

Families are connected to support from other families and community.

OUR FOCUS

Community

OUTCOME

Kwinana communities are inclusive, connected and child friendly.

COMMITMENT 7

Community events and activities bring Kwinana families together.

COMMITMENT 8

Communities and individuals that support children and their families are assisted to build their skills and enhance collaboration.

COMMITMENT 9

Innovative and bold ideas that assist children and families are championed and supported.

COMMITMENT 10

Decisions are shaped by what children and families want and need.



OUR FOCUS Children

OUTCOME Children are happy, healthy, learning, nurtured and safe

Objectives	Short Term 1 – 2 YEARS	Medium Term 2 – 3 YEARS	Long Term 3 YEARS +
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COMMITMENT 1

Early childhood development is understood by everyone who contributes to raising children in Kwinana.

WHY?

When everyone understands how children grow and develop in the early years, we can work together to create environments that nurture, protect, and set children up for lifelong wellbeing.

1.1	Strengthen shared understandings about early childhood development across families, professionals, and the community.			
1.2	Increase community awareness of the importance of the early years through accessible information and communication.			
1.3	Promote consistent, evidence-based messaging about child development and the early years.			

COMMITMENT 2

Children access healthcare that assists their development.

WHY?

When children can access the healthcare they need, it helps them to thrive.

2.1	Increase the percentage of children receiving developmental health checks.			
2.2	Increase accessibility, cultural safety, and community awareness of local child health services and screening programs.			
2.3	Strengthen collaboration between health providers, early years services, and families to provide coordinated, wraparound support.			
2.4	Advocate for adequate health services to address existing barriers to the community by having critical services located in Kwinana.			

COMMITMENT 3

Community spaces are welcoming, safe and child-friendly.

WHY?

When spaces feel safe and friendly, children and families are more likely to connect, learn, and grow.

3.1	Create and upgrade public spaces and community facilities that are designed to foster safety, inclusion, and child-friendly play.			
3.2	Encourage the activation and use of parks and community spaces that support all children's learning, exploration, and connection.			
3.3	Seek regular, age-appropriate feedback from families and children to inform the design and improvement of public spaces.			



OUR FOCUS Parents, Caregivers and Families

OUTCOME Parents, caregivers and families are connected and supported.

Objectives

Short Term
1 – 2 YEARS

Medium Term
2 – 3 YEARS

Long Term
3 YEARS +

COMMITMENT 4

Families know what is happening and where to get support.

WHY?

When families know what supports are available and how to access them, they're more likely to receive the right help earlier.

4.1	Increase awareness and visibility of early years programs, supports and community activities through coordinated communication channels.			
4.2	Ensure information is accessible, inclusive and available in formats that reflect the diverse needs of local families.			
4.3	Strengthen pathways that help families connect to services and supports early.			

COMMITMENT 5

Supports and services for young children and their families are accessible and easy to navigate.

WHY?

When services are connected and easy to access, families are more likely to receive the most effective support.

5.1	Advocate for improved pathways and service availability so families can easily navigate early years services and programs.			
5.2	Identify and advocate to reduce barriers to participation such as cost, transport, and language.			
5.3	Strengthen service collaboration and coordination to provide seamless, wraparound support tailored to family needs.			

COMMITMENT 6

Families are connected to support from other families and community.

WHY?

Support from other families and community builds trust, reduces isolation, and helps families find the right help in places they already feel safe and connected.

6.1	Promote peer-to-peer, parent-led and community-led networks that strengthen relationships and reduce isolation.			
6.2	Support culturally safe and inclusive groups that build belonging across community.			
6.3	Encourage participation in community activities that foster mutual support, inclusion, and shared learning.			



OUR FOCUS Community

OUTCOME Kwinana communities are inclusive, connected and child friendly.

Objectives	Short Term 1 – 2 YEARS	Medium Term 2 – 3 YEARS	Long Term 3 YEARS +
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COMMITMENT 7

Community events and activities bring Kwinana families together.

WHY?

Community events help families feel connected and provide opportunities for them to meet, share, and support each other.

7.1	Support and deliver inclusive, child-friendly community events that strengthen family connection and belonging.			
7.2	Encourage collaboration between community members, services and groups to design activities that reflect local identity.			
7.3	Promote community-led celebrations that showcase Kwinana’s cultural diversity and intergenerational connections.			

COMMITMENT 8

Communities and individuals that support children and their families are assisted to build their skills and enhance collaboration.

WHY?

When initiatives to address local priorities are developed and driven by communities, they are more likely to be effective, inclusive and long-lasting.

8.1	Provide opportunities to strengthen the skills, capability and confidence of people and organisations working with families and children.			
8.2	Facilitate collaboration across sectors, networks and community groups to improve coordination and shared outcomes.			
8.3	Support the development of community-driven initiatives that respond to local strengths, needs and opportunities.			

COMMITMENT 9

Innovative and bold ideas that assist children and families are championed and supported.

WHY?

Sparkling and growing bold ideas helps us enhance what we do and how we do it.

9.1	Foster innovation by supporting and evaluating initiatives that enhance early years development.			
9.2	Identify and support partnerships and grants that grow innovative ideas.			
9.3	Recognise, promote and advocate for effective community-led initiatives that demonstrate positive impact.			

COMMITMENT 10

Decisions are shaped by what children and families want and need.

WHY?

When families' voices are heard and valued, services and decisions are more likely to reflect local needs, leading to better support, stronger trust, and lasting change.

10.1	Embed meaningful engagement with children and families into planning, delivery and evaluation processes.			
10.2	Build culturally safe and accessible feedback, and consultation methods.			
10.3	Ensure community insights and lived experiences are used to shape services, policies and programs.			

Our learning and reporting cycle

The City is committed to implementing and reviewing the Strategy, so our actions stay relevant, our impact is visible, and our approach remains responsive to the changing needs of children, families, and communities in Kwinana. This Learning and Reporting Cycle holds us accountable to the vision we've set and creates the conditions for continuous improvement, equity, and shared ownership across our community.

Continuous Learning and Reflection (Ongoing)

The City's Early Years Action Plan will align with the commitments outlined in the Strategy. Regular communication between the Community Action Groups and the City's Early Years Team will provide ongoing learning and reflection opportunities. This will strengthen shared understandings, and ensure we adapt to what children, families and partners are experiencing.

Annual Partner Forums

The City's Early Years Team will provide annual progress updates to key stakeholders, including but not limited to, the Boola Maara Aboriginal Consultative Committee, the Kwinana Early Years Network and the City's Community Services Working Group.

Biannual Progress Snapshots

The City's Early Years Team will provide biannual progress updates to the community through scheduled events in line with our Communication Plan and through the Love My Kwinana and the City's website. Formal reporting will be provided to the Department of Communities as per the AEDC Local Government Grant requirements.

Annual Learning and Accountability Report

Progress against the Strategy's Commitments will be published in the City's Annual Reports and presented to Elected Members regularly.

Strategy Review (Every three years)

The City will engage in ongoing rigorous community engagement and consultation to evaluate progress and renew commitments. We will reflect on systemic and social changes and update the Strategy accordingly, based on evidence and experience.

Her baby and balls
make charlotte
feel happy



Advocacy priorities

The City of Kwinana is committed to advocating for the resources, funding and system changes needed to ensure every child and family can thrive. We use our community's insights, local evidence and lived experience to influence State and Federal decision-makers, strengthen service availability, and champion investment in the early years. Through collaborative partnerships, clear priorities and a focus on equity, we will continue to speak up for the critical infrastructure, programs and supports that give Kwinana's children the best start in life.

Early Years Investment and Program Funding

Advocate for sustained and coordinated investment through a pooled Early Years Impact Investment Fund and dedicated program funding. Strengthened and aligned resources will reduce duplication, expand high-quality early years programs, outreach supports, parenting initiatives, and culturally safe engagement activities, ensuring families can access consistent and evidence-informed services when and where they need them.

Community Health and Early Years Infrastructure

Advocate for sustained State, Federal, corporate and philanthropic investment to establish integrated community health and early years hubs in Kwinana. Strengthened infrastructure will provide accessible, coordinated, and culturally safe environments where families can connect to developmental, clinical, and early childhood supports close to home, addressing critical service gaps and improving long-term outcomes.

Transport Improvement

Advocate for improved public transport routes, frequency, and active transport options to reduce access barriers for families. Reliable transport is essential for connecting children and caregivers to health care, early learning, playgroups, and community services across Kwinana.

Data and Evaluation of Early Years Investment

Advocate for dedicated resources to support shared data, evaluation, and learning across the early years ecosystem. Strengthened measurement capability will enable the City of Kwinana to deliver evidence-based services, track long-term outcomes, and ensure that investment leads to meaningful, lasting impact for children and families.



Glossary of terms

Child-Focused

An approach that puts the rights, needs and voices of children at the centre of planning, services, and decision-making.

Community Action Group

A Community Action Group consists of residents, service providers, organisations and businesses that have united to develop and implement an aspect of the City of Kwinana's Early Years Action Plan.

Culturally Safe

Being culturally safe is about ensuring that people of all cultural backgrounds feel respected, valued and safe, without fear of discrimination or judgment. It also includes making sure that the people working in services or making decisions reflect the culture of people using or being impacted by them.

Early Childhood Development

Early childhood development is a focus on young children's overall wellbeing and therefore links care (by families, communities and the society as a whole) and education (both formal and non-formal) to the child's cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development.

Early Intervention

Early intervention is about identifying early that a child is developing differently and providing timely specialised support to the child and their family.

Early Years

The period from pregnancy to age five, when a child's brain, body and relationships develop rapidly. What happens in the early years has a lasting impact on health, learning, and wellbeing.

Early Years Team

The Early Years Team is part of the City of Kwinana's Community Services and Partnerships Department and consists of the Community Partnerships Specialist, Early Years Officer and Family Support Officer.

Inclusive

Making sure everyone, regardless of culture, ability, language, income, or family type, can take part, feel welcome, and benefit equally.

Place-Based

A way of working that is shaped by the unique strengths, needs and identities of local communities. Place-based approaches aim to respond to what matters most in each neighbourhood or community.

Whole Picture Approach

Looking at the full set of influences on a child's life, including family, services, neighbourhood, culture, and policy, to better understand and support their wellbeing.

Wraparound Support

Support that surrounds and nurtures a child and their family, connecting different services and people (like health, education, and community) so they work together and meet the family's needs in a coordinated way.

Going to
the beach
with my dad









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