

## Objective

To utilise a whole-of-Government and a whole-of-community approach, to reduce the number of Mandurah children who are developmentally vulnerable according to the Australian Early Developmental Index, particularly in the areas of language and cognitive skills and; physical health and wellbeing.

## Statement

The City of Mandurah (the 'City') is committed to a whole-of-Government and a whole-of-community approach to ensure that every child (aged 0-11) has the best start in life, in order to create a better future for themselves and the Mandurah community.

The City acknowledges that investing in the health, education, development and care of our children benefits children and their families, our communities and the economy.

The City's roles and responsibilities in early childhood development are:

- **Collaborate** with other agencies to support families to provide a nurturing home environment and access services.
- **Lead** in developing inclusive local planning processes for the built and natural environment that take into account the needs of children and families, and promoting community safety.
- **Lead** (where the City provides a service targeted at young children and family) in providing programs that consider the inclusion of children experiencing one or more barriers to social participation (low-income family; cultural and language barriers; and disability).
- **Lead** (where the City provides a service targeted at young children and family) in providing effective policy responses based on research and workforce development for staff.

The identified priority groups for the delivery of this policy and accompanying strategies are those that are experiencing one or more barriers to social participation, these are:

- *Socioeconomic status/low income families*
- *Cultural and language barriers including Indigenous families*
- *Living with disability*

The City will work and collaborate closely with other spheres of government and the wider community, to address four focus areas and outcomes:

### **Focus Area 1: Safe Environment**

Outcome 1: Children's environments are nurturing, culturally appropriate and safe.

### **Focus Area 2: Literacy & Learning**

Outcome 2: Children have the knowledge and skills for life and learning.

### **Focus Area 3: Social Inclusion**

Outcome 3: Children are provided with opportunities that increase social inclusion and reduced disadvantage.

### **Focus Area 4: Building the Capacity of Parents & Carers**

Outcome 4: *Families and service providers are confident and have the capabilities to support the development of the children in their care.*

# Families and Children Policy

## POL-CMS 04



### Related Documents

City of Mandurah Early Childhood Strategy: Better Start Better Future

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<b>Responsible Directorate:</b>	Place and Community
<b>Responsible Department:</b>	Community
<b>Reviewer:</b>	Executive Manager Community
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Amendments			
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2	Minute G.35/2/15	24/02/2015	23/07/2019
3	Minute G.12/7/19	23/07/2019	-