

# CYPMatters

Every child and young person counts!

## Respect & listening

### **Even very young children can become prejudiced – but schools can do something about it**

Racism has negative consequences for children's health. It harms the children who experience it personally and those who witness it. This research team investigates the kinds of experiences that can help make children become less prejudiced. [More >](#)

### **Strong Futures - SA Youth Action Plan 2020-2022**

Young people have always been active contributors to SA's social, cultural and economic life. It is important to hear their ideas, harness their talents and provide them with opportunities and supports to build a strong future for themselves and the state. The actions in this Plan are clear and practical and build on strong foundations, as well as identifying new opportunities to respond directly to priorities that young South Australians have expressed. [More >](#)

### **Many ways to share a hug**

As we all know, the world has changed. For children, these changes have been surprising, difficult and sometimes positive. Since the COVID-19 emergency started, the Australian Childhood Foundation have been producing resources to help anyone talk to children about the ways they are experiencing their worlds. [More >](#)

### **Creating Change through Partnerships: An introductory guide to partnerships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous organisations in child and family services**

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) families and communities have unique diversity and strengths in child rearing. Genuine and respectful partnerships between ATSI community-controlled organisations and non-Indigenous service providers have multiple benefits, including: ongoing cultural competence and safety capability development for non-Indigenous service providers; development of shared capacity to respond to community needs. [More >](#)

### **Why are we still asking people where they're from?**

If you are perceived to be 'racially different' like Amishah is, you are likely to have been asked where you are from. The White Australia Policy was abolished by 1973 but being white had already been positioned as the norm, with people from African or Asian backgrounds and other non-white-passing people of colour becoming 'perpetual foreigners' in Australia. Questioning 'where are you from?' can have an impact on peoples' sense of identity. [More >](#)

### **Cultural training project gives young people their voice**

This video, featuring young people who were previously detained in the Adelaide Youth Training Centre, is part of a bigger project from the Courts Administration Authority to improve existing cultural awareness training for Judges and Magistrates. The video aims to provide an insight into what life is like for young Aboriginal people and the role the courts can play in ensuring their voices are heard. [More >](#)

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## Why we need responsible data for children

Child rights organisations are using, or exploring the use of, a variety of data-driven technologies to bolster services provided to children, including biometrics, digital identity systems, remote-sensing technologies, mobile and social media messaging apps, and administrative data systems. The data generated by these systems includes potentially sensitive data, such as personally identifiable (PII) or demographically identifiable (DII) information. [More >](#)

## Health & wellbeing

### Child poverty statistics released

Earlier this week Stats NZ released its first set of child poverty statistics that track progress towards the Government's child poverty targets. While statistical uncertainties mean it is too early to be confident about the precise level of change that has occurred, the numbers are broadly consistent with expectations, and are a promising indication that work is on track to meet the Government's three-year targets. [More >](#)

### Learning from HeadStart: the mental health and wellbeing of adolescent boys and girls

HeadStart is a five-year program, which aims to explore and test new ways to improve the mental health and wellbeing of young people aged 10 to 16 and prevent serious mental health issues from developing. A 2017-2019 longitudinal study of more than 10,000 young people found that girls report increasing levels of difficulties between early and mid-adolescence, whereas boys report fairly stable levels of difficulties over time. [More >](#)

### Closing the gap: report 2020

The Commonwealth Government has delivered its latest annual report on progress on Closing the Gap. This report points to the future, where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people share ownership to improve life outcomes for current and future generations. It closes off on an era of reporting against targets set by government. [More >](#)

### Yes, the system needs to be better. But here's how to ensure your child can access the NDIS if they need it

Long-standing problems getting children into disability support were part of the reason for the introduction of the NDIS. Families with a child who have been through the NDIS process and the organisations that support them were interviewed and tips to ensure children can access the NDIS if they need it have been collated. [More >](#)

### Building resilience: how local partnerships are supporting children and young people's mental health and emotional wellbeing

This research looks at how local government and its partners can work together to support children and young people's mental health and emotional wellbeing in England. Recommendations include: set clear targets which focus on achieving better mental health outcomes for all children and young people; incentivise investment in earlier support and prevention; develop a consistent outcomes-focused dataset to measure progress. [More >](#)

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## **Poverty in Australia 2020 - Part 1: Overview**

This publication continues to fill the knowledge gap about the prevalence and profile of poverty in Australia. Utilising the latest data available from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), it paints a picture of entrenched and deep poverty, despite Australia's relatively high national wealth. [More >](#)

## **Changing direction: mental health needs of justice-involved young people in Australia**

This report presents findings on the mental health of 465 justice-involved young people. Findings are drawn from a wider survey of the mental, sexual and reproductive health of young people (14–17 years old) in contact with the justice system conducted in Queensland and Western Australia between 2016 and 2018. [More >](#)

## **Adverse childhood experiences: what we know, what we don't know, and what should happen next**

This report examines the evidence relating to the prevalence, impact and treatment of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), the extent to which ACEs should provide the basis for frontline practice and service design, and the known level of effectiveness and value of ACE-related approaches. [More >](#)

## **Not just Collateral Damage: The hidden impact of domestic abuse on children**

Domestic abuse can happen in any relationship and any family and we know that it can have a significant impact on children, putting at risk their future wellbeing, their education, and their chance of forming happy, healthy relationships. Perhaps unsurprisingly, domestic abuse is the most common factor amongst children assessed as being 'in need' of support from local authority children's services in England. [More >](#)

## **What do we know about what young kids know about alcohol?**

Many Australians would be able to recall vivid memories of alcohol from a very young age – sipping the froth off Dad's beer or a glass of champagne at a special family occasion. International research has made the case that early experiences with alcohol and the things we see in relation to alcohol at a very early age can affect how we engage with alcohol when we get older. But do the findings from international studies apply in Australia? [More >](#)

## **Children's social-emotional wellbeing: The role of parenting, parents' mental health and health behaviours**

This paper examines the association of mothers' parenting behaviours, parents' mental health and parents' health behaviours (alcohol use and smoking) with social-emotional wellbeing of primary school children using *Growing Up in Australia: The Longitudinal Study of Australian Children*. [More >](#)

## **Safe & nurtured**

### **Talking about the internet with children affected by trauma**

Many young people who have experienced abuse related trauma have grown up with inconsistent or damaging messages. They yearn for connection and to be in relationships, however they haven't had much of a chance to experience healthy relationships. Their face to face experiences influence the ones they navigate online. Added to this is 24/7 access and online interactions that often occur privately away from monitoring. [More >](#)

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## **What does being safe mean in residential care?**

As part of the Child and Young Person Visitor trial program, a group of young people who have experienced residential care were asked what being safe means to them. Findings include; being safe doesn't just mean living in an environment free from physical harm, but also means being supported by a network of people who accept you for who you are and help you overcome the challenges that life brings; trust and feeling in control of your life was also a strong driver in feeling safe. [More >](#)

## **Gambling on games: how video games expose children to gambling**

The presence of gambling and gambling technologies in video games is widespread, pernicious and often hidden. This report identifies four different categories of gambling/gaming crossover, each of which poses different risks and may need to be addressed in different ways: immersive and addictive technologies; simulated gambling; gambling within games; and gambling via games. [More >](#)

## **Framework to reduce criminalisation of young people in residential care**

This framework aims to reduce the unnecessary and inappropriate contact of young people in residential care with the criminal justice system. The framework establishes a commitment across state government departments, Victoria Police and residential care service providers. [More >](#)

## **TikTok 'family safety mode' gives parents some app control**

The BBC reports that TikTok, a social video app that allows users to share short videos, is introducing a family safety mode designed to give parents tighter control over how their children use the app. The safety feature will allow parents and carers to link their account to their child's and have direct control over the safety settings. [More >](#)

## **Working together to keep children and families safe: Strategies for developing collaborative competence**

This practice paper focuses on improving cross-sectoral relationships between child protection and child and family welfare practitioners, who are often required to work together to keep children and families safe. [More >](#)

## **Thousands of Australians becoming parents to relatives without adequate support, report says**

The 'We're Just Kids as Well' report released by the National Children's Commissioner's Megan Mitchell estimates 12,000 children in Queensland live with a relative, which is more than three times the number of children living with a kinship carer and almost 2,000 more children than the total number of children in state care. [More >](#)

## **The future of the Child and Young Person's visitor scheme**

More than two years ago the Guardian for Children and Young People set about designing a scheme for advocates to visit children and young people living in residential care to hear about their lives and ensure their rights are being met. This report reflects learnings from the trial and sets out final recommendations for how the scheme could work to support children and young people living in residential care and monitor their safety and wellbeing. [More >](#)

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## **Children's Safety Survey**

The Institute of Child Protection Studies (ICPS) provides evidence-informed assessment tools to help organisations measure how children perceive their sense of safety and how their workforce perceives their skills in safeguarding children. The surveys form part of ICPS's ongoing Children and Young People's Safety (CAYPS) research. [More >](#)

## **Repeat domestic and family violence among young people**

This study analysed Victoria Police reported incident data on almost 4,000 young people (aged 12–18) involved in domestic and/or family violence. Approximately one in four young people were involved in repeat violence within six months, and the likelihood of repeat incidents of violence increased significantly with every new event. The findings highlight the need for timely, targeted and graduated responses. [More >](#)

## **Japan prohibits all corporal punishment of children**

With the publication of the guidelines for parenting without corporal punishment on 20 February 2020, Japan has clearly and explicitly prohibited all corporal punishment of children. [More >](#)

## **Enjoying & achieving**

### **Reading and numeracy attainment of children reported to child protection services: A population record linkage study controlling for other adversities**

Maltreated children are at risk of poor educational outcomes, but also experience greater individual, family, and neighbourhood adversities that may obscure an understanding of relationships between child protection involvement and educational attainment. [More >](#)

### **UniSA conducts world first review of the importance of nature play**

Researchers from the University of South Australia have conducted a world-first review of the importance of nature play which they believe could transform children's play spaces, supporting investment in city and urban parks, while also delivering important opportunities for children's physical, social and emotional development. [More >](#)

### **New collaboration will place more books in the hands of young First Nations readers**

A three-year collaboration between the Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ILF) and Australia Post will see nearly 100,000 books delivered to over 400 remote communities throughout 2020. The Book Supply Program will ensure that remote communities across Australia receive the same access to quality literacy resources as their urban counterparts. [More >](#)

### **Why working families need parks and playgrounds more than ever**

New research shows neighbourhood parks, and playgrounds in particular, provide valuable and unique opportunities for interaction between parents and children. These are places where parents can play with and teach their child new skills, and children also get to play with other children and create their own activities. [More >](#)

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## Participation

### **What we don't understand about young people's motivations**

Young people are demanding change. For some young people, climate change is urgent. For others, gun violence is a crisis. From truth and reconciliation to inclusion and diversity and mental health, young people are bringing awareness to societal crises and making headlines along the way. [More >](#)

## Prepared for adult life

### **Children's use of social media is creating a new type of digital native**

The first generation of people who have grown up using social media such as Facebook and Instagram are entering the workforce. Some academics have argued that using the internet from a young age would shape the way people learn, work and even think, but it is still not clear how useful this kind of generational divide actually is. [More >](#)