



Commissioner for Children and Young People
Western Australia

Strategic Directions 2023-2024

The Commissioner for Children and Young People is an independent statutory officer who provides reports to the Parliament of Western Australia.

The *Commissioner for Children and Young People Act 2006* clearly outlines the functions of the role in advocating for all Western Australian children and young people.



Priorities:

In 2023-24, the Commissioner will prioritise the rights, needs and experiences of children and young people in the following policy areas:

- health and mental health
- youth justice
- child protection, in particular, children in out-of-home care
- education, particularly those experiencing educational disengagement.

The Commissioner has three key platforms:

- 1** Promoting the rights, voices and contributions of children and young people
- 2** Monitoring and advocacy to strengthen the wellbeing of all WA children and young people
- 3** Prioritising the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable children and young people



Key Actions 2023-2024

1 Promoting the rights, voices and contributions of children and young people

- Continue to visit schools, organisations and other places where children and young people gather to hear their voices.
- Review and build on the opportunities for children and young people to be heard in the work of the office, including consultations on specific policy issues and providing feedback and advice on our work.
- Give primacy to the voices of children and young people, including across media platforms and influencing opportunities.
- Continue to promote and advocate for the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child across laws, policies and practices.

2 Monitoring and advocacy to strengthen the wellbeing of all WA children and young people

- Monitor key issues for children and young people, including through the Wellbeing Monitoring Framework.
- Undertake and/or support research that provides valuable data and evidence on the needs of children and young people.
- Advocate across government and non-government sectors to ensure the voices of children and young people are heard and considered and to keep their issues at the top of the agenda.

3 Prioritising the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable children and young people

- A continued focus on those children and young people who are experiencing disadvantage and vulnerability, including Aboriginal and culturally and linguistically diverse children and young people, across the key policy priority areas.
- Continue to work to understand and represent the needs of other diverse groups of children and young people in all other work of the Commissioner.



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