

## Children’s Week event funding – preschool/kindy family events

How can families with preschoolers and kindy children build strong connections with school and other families in the current context (to mitigate detrimental impacts of Covid and isolation)?

While engaged parents improve student outcomes, school grounds have been off limits for parents due to Covid with fewer opportunities for spontaneous meetings or playdates.

[Council’s Network&Play project](#) provides guidelines, funding, and templates for parent associations and Early Learning Representatives to collaborate and organise **play and family** networking events.

Is there an event already on your calendar that would benefit from these elements? Something informative and introductory that’s short, fun and helps create parent networks? Maybe online?

Council can provide up to \$200 to assist with costs.

### Criteria for funding

- Activities to be held within the eligible time period: before 12 November
  - Increase awareness of the needs, interest, rights and achievements of children
  - Promote community involvement and cooperation
  - Activities must not be intended to promote commercial interests
- Events can include grandparent and intergenerational activities.

### Recipients to provide:

Activity description: .....

Attendance numbers: ..... - Photographs if appropriate

If you’d like to discuss your ideas, call [Marina Spurgin at Council on 0401 838 872](#)

### Online event Framework (suggestion)

1. Discuss options with preschool or kindy educators for a ‘play and network’ online event (during November) that provides opportunities to:.
2. Introduce families, icebreaker
3. Connect parents to [Information](#) or link to the [Transition to School Parent Forum](#) recording, school contact lists, invite questions,
4. Provide/discuss parent network options ie opt-in email contact list, parent-led social media administrator – not everyone may have Facebook.  
See Council’s Social Media Closed Groups Guide.

Acknowledge parenting strengths, parents/carers as essential educators, and existing challenges with the pandemic.