

Grand Opening!



Port School

Young Parent Centre Extension

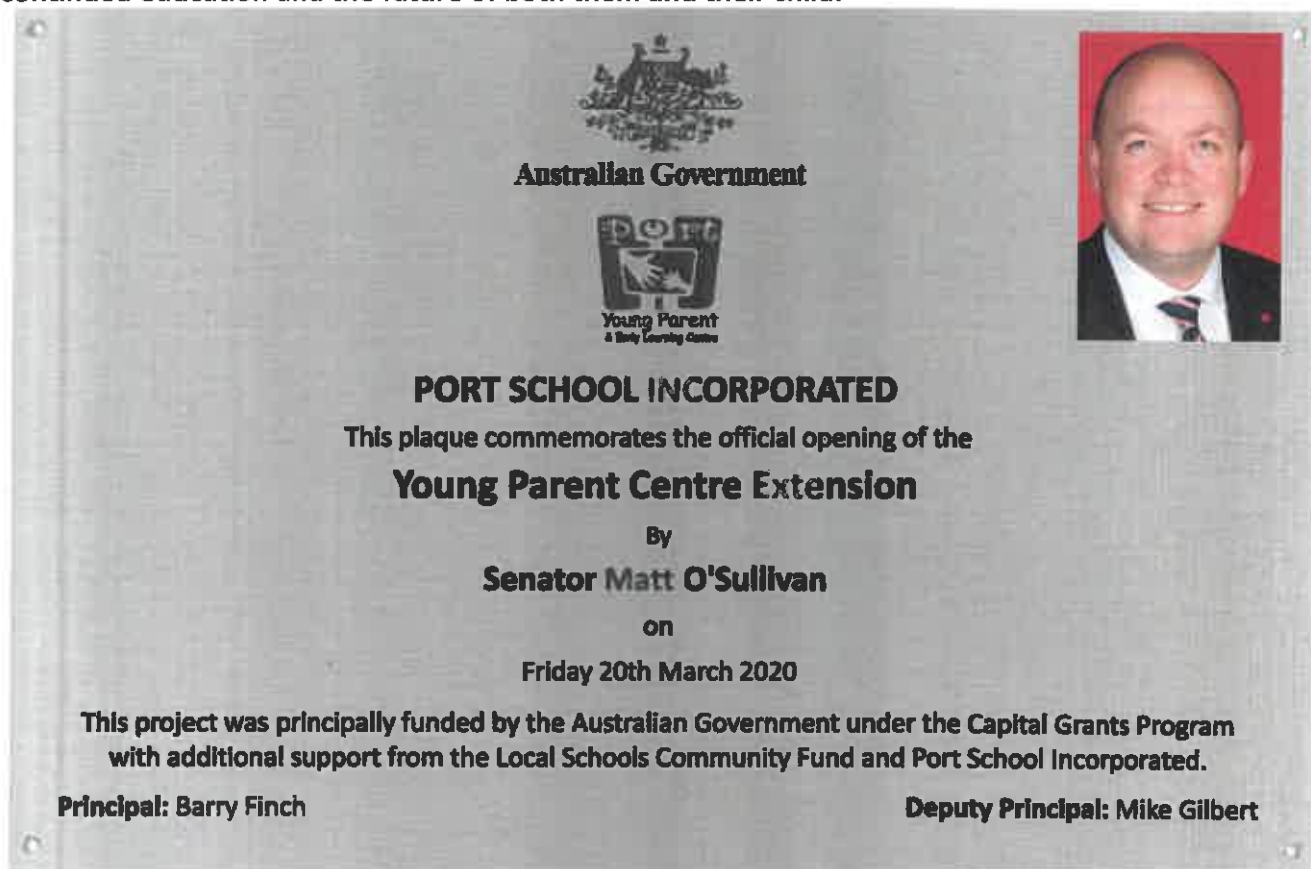
Perth, Western Australia

Official Opening Edition: Friday 20th March 2020



Official Opening

We are delighted to be able to share this one off special opening edition of the Young Parent Centre Extension on Friday 20th March 2020. This newsletter celebrates how it all started and gives a flavour of what has happened over the last 7 years from when the buildings were originally purchased to where we are at now. It looks at some of the amazing young mums along their journey and how with a multitude of stakeholder relationship support, we have been able to make a difference to their continued education and the future of both them and their child.



We are thrilled that Senator Matt O'Sullivan – Senator for Western Australia is able to officially open the new centre and facilities and that the support from the AISWA capital grants program has enabled this to happen.

From the Senators Office:

Senator for Western Australia Matt O'Sullivan is delighted to be opening the newly extended Young Parent Centre at Port School that has been funded by the Coalition Government. He looks forward to visiting the school on Friday 20th March and seeing the new facilities first hand.

Note:

Western Australia has been home to six generations of Matt's family and he and his wife are proud to be raising their two children in Perth. Matt has worked right across Western Australia. He began his career as a tradesman, completing an electronics and communications apprenticeship. While doing this, he volunteered with a youth service connected to his Church. The community needs that he was exposed to as a volunteer inspired him to pursue a career change as a youth worker. Over the following eight years, he worked extensively with at-risk youth and their families. These experiences informed his deep conviction that strong families, good government policy and meaningful employment have a critical role to play in building successful communities. In 2008, Matt joined Andrew and Nicola Forrest's Minderoo Foundation. There he was given the responsibility of leading GenerationOne – a nation-building project that has seen tens of thousands of Indigenous people obtain work.

Matt has been instrumental in leading reform across employment and social policy areas in Australia. He has the first-hand experience necessary to be an effective advocate for Western Australia in the Senate. Matt will listen and learn from the community in which he lives and raises his family, and will deliver the measurable social and economic outcomes that it deserves.

Overview

Port School is an incorporated body, overseen by a board of directors who guide and assist in the direction of the school and who ultimately performance-manage the principal. The principal is the strategic and operational manager of the entity, known as Port School Incorporated. Port School Incorporated operates the following entities:

- Port School and Port School Mobile Classroom Education Facilities
- Port School Young Parent Centre [YPC]
- Port School Early Learning Centre (fully ACECQA registered childcare facility) [ELC]
- Port School Registered Training Organisation [RTO]
- Port School Outreach Program (POP)
- Port Middle School
- Port Fitness Centre

Introduction

Port School's Young Parent Centre (YPC) located in Hamilton Hill, Perth, Western Australia offers an opportunity for young teenage mothers to return to school and re-engage in education and to learn valuable parenting skills. Port School is a CARE (Curriculum and Re-engagement in Education) school, which provides education for at risk and vulnerable teenagers, including teenage mums. Port School offers holistic teaching practices, where the focus is not only on educational attainment, but also through support services such as advocacy around mental health and wellbeing.



There are currently over 140 students enrolled at Port School, with 21 enrolled in the YPC. The students have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), which are specifically catered according to their educational requirements and personalized learning goals. The young mums have access to an onsite Early Learning Centre, which is predominantly for their children, as well as staff members. The young

mums are able to engage with their child as frequently as required and there are many programs that are offered to support them with their parenting skills.

The Young Parent Centre and Early Learning Centre both offer parenting programs, which provide support to significant male role models in the child and mum's life, including the baby's dads, partners and grandparents. This includes playgroup every Thursday afternoon, Red Nose and Circle of Security training and participating in extra curricula activities such as river cruises and various functions offered by Port School.

Programs Offered in the Young Parent Centre

The Young Parent Centre offers a myriad of educational, vocational and parenting programs to support the young mums and their bubs. These include:

Educational Programs:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science/ HASS/ Art
- Keep Safe curriculum
- Health and Wellbeing

Vocational Programs:

- Certificate I, II, III in General Education for Adults
- Certificate II, III in Community Services
- Certificate II In Sports Coaching
- Certificate II In Hospitality
- Certificate II in Furniture Making
- Certificate II in Visual Design
- Certificate I In Leadership



Parenting Programs:

- Circle of Security – delivered onsite by YPC Manager, trained to facilitate the course. Provides training in parenting and infant attachment
- Bringing Up Great Kids – Australian Child Education Foundation – Mindfulness parenting program to assist parents adjust to first time parenting and relational issues
- SIDS and Kids – provides important information safe sleeping habits presented in-kind by the Red Nose Society
- Playgroup – offered onsite in the Early Learning Centre. Provides important interaction between mother (includes partners) and their child
- Healthy Eating – providing cooking and nutritional information for healthy food options including baby foods
- Keys for Life – driving program to support students obtain their Learners Permits, as well as safe driving practices
- Early Works – a comprehensive communication system to engage, interact and access information, observations and updates on the young mums child's daily activities in the Early Learning Centre
- Counselling Services – provided onsite by fully trained counsellors and a psychiatrist
- Group Therapy – providing support for relational interactions and mindfulness

Port Young Parent Centre Statistics

Statistics

Since its inception in 2015, Port YPC has had 62 young mums attending

2015 = 16 (officially opened in August 2015)

2016 = 22

2017 = 28

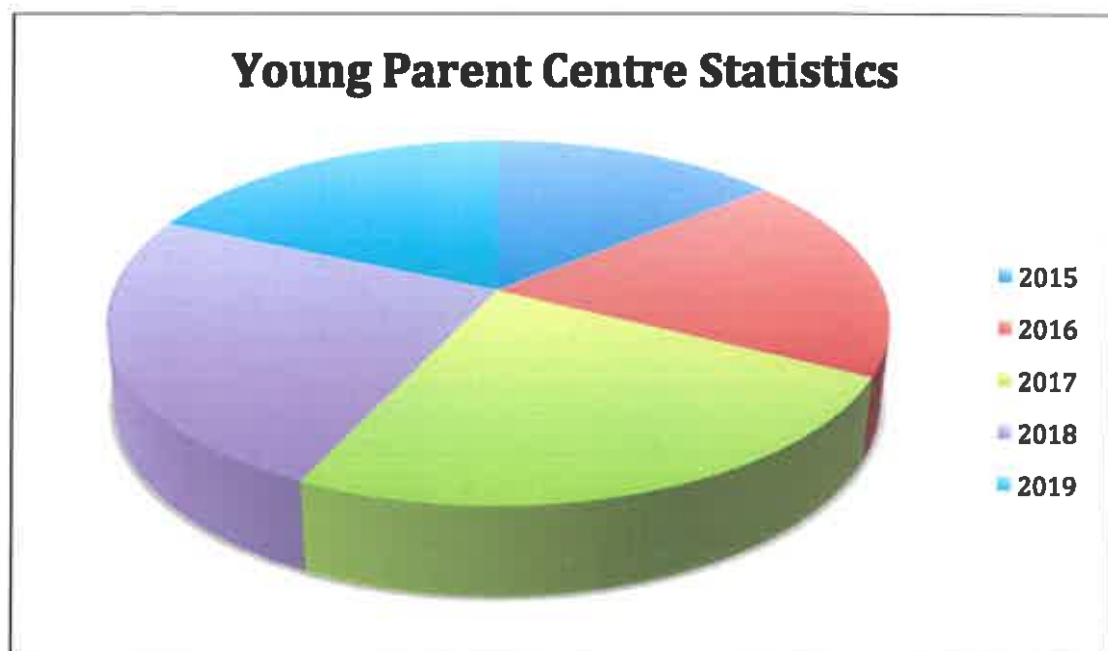
2018 = 29

2019 = 25

2020 = 16 (27 projected by June 2020)



These figures also include overlapping of students that carry over each year



There are many students at Port School that require intensive support. Inclusive Education involves applying for additional state and federal funding to support vulnerable students at Port School. This includes students who have various diagnoses such as Autism, learning difficulties, poor socialisation skills, underdeveloped gross and fine motor skills and mental health and wellbeing.

Any additional monies are allocated to provide intensive educational and emotional support to the students, through one on one care, hence the high ratio of staff to students. There are currently 45 active staff members across multiple areas at the YPC and school, which consist of teachers, counsellors, psychologists, youth workers, education assistants, trainers, therapists as well as specialist intervention and involvement from external agencies.

When contextualizing the wrap around support services our young mums need, the fact that 45% since 2015 have been on inclusive education funding (23 students from the Young Parent Centre) highlights the high level of support required to ensure educational and parenting success is achieved.

Reflections – Our Journey In 2014/ 2015

In 2014, after a year of researching young parent programs in Australia and globally, Port School purchased 60a and 60b Wheeler Road through a AISWA low interest loan. The vision was to create a purpose built childcare centre and young parent centre that would address an emerging issue of young mums being able to continue their education whilst pregnant and after their babies birth.



Both properties were very dated and were in need of a major overhaul, redesign. Local building firm MC Crowder (Mark Crowder) was engaged to undertake the major project works.



Port staff and its construction students were involved in a lot of the demolition works and Mark took on several students in a real life work experience capacity.



Past Federal Member for Fremantle Melissa Parke offers her support to the project as did Senator Linda Reynolds, the now Defence Minister





By late 2015, the project was nearing completion and the education minister at the time Peter Collier was set to undertake the official opening proceedings.



We are not sure what you call a gathering of so many politicians in one place, but we were certainly delighted to get the support from so many of our local members from both sides of the fence. Even they all agreed, that this truly was an unprecedented achievement for a school to have such a state of the art facility for young teen parents.



From left to right including their roles at that time (2015):
City of Cockburn Deputy Mayor – Carol Reeve-Fowkes, Federal Member for Fremantle: Melissa Parke, Hon. Simone McGurk,
Port School Principal Barry Finch, Senator for Western Australia – Linda Reynolds, Hon. Peter Tinley,
Port School Deputy Principal Mike Gilbert and Education Minister Hon. Peter Collier MLA



Philosophy

Port's Young Parent & Early Learning Centre will at all times aim to deliver the best quality of care for children and teen parents in both centres, through thoughtful, responsive, consultative, and responsible management practice.

The Child

Childhood is a magical time and will be respected. We believe that children:

- Have rights and are entitled to be safe and secure
- Are unique and this individuality is to be respectfully celebrated
- Have a voice, which is valued and will be heard via responsive and reciprocal communication
- Learn through play when engaged in a child-focused curriculum, which allows for spontaneous and intentional teaching that supports individual children's interests
- Develop holistically through nurturing relationships and thrive when they have a sense of belonging to families, cultural groups and communities
- Benefit and grow when they are in wondrous natural environments where curiosity and creativity is cultivated

Staff

A team consisting of a manager/ supervisor and qualified educators and several casual early years staff are in place to operate this facility effectively. The ELC staff, although not directly working in the Young Parent Centre side, embrace the holistic approach that Port are taking to work with the teen parents and their babies. We believe in positive and effective work relations and that staff:

- Are valued partners in teaching, they are unique and bring a diverse background of shared interests
- Are encouraged and supported in the pursuit of ongoing professional development
- As educators, role-models, facilitators, researchers and learners, we encourage staff to: Reflect critically on their practice, philosophy and ethics
- Actively and consistently promote principles of fairness, equity and social justice, including advocating for the rights of all children
- Work collaboratively to achieve best practice
- Express respectful recognition and acknowledgement of the vital role of families in raising children

Meet The Team



Michelle Forsyth

My name is Michelle Forsyth and I am the Manager of the Young Parent Centre. I have been at Port School for five years, after coordinating teen parenting programs at both Uniting Care West and Gilmore College. I began my career in banking and finance and then became an Education Assistant before joining Port School where I work with the young mums. My main role is to support and enhance the young mums parenting skills and to assist them to achieve educational outcomes. I enjoy my role immensely and love working with the wonderful staff, mums and bubs in the YPC and the Early Learning Centre.



Aidan Rowden

My name is Aidan Rowden and I have been working at Port School since July 2018. Prior to working at Port, I studied a Bachelor of Education (Primary, Health and PE 1-10) at Murdoch University. I began studying in February 2013 and graduated in February 2018. Whilst studying teaching at Murdoch, I also undertook a Certificate III & IV in Fitness, which I completed in August 2018. I currently work in the Port Young Parent Centre as a teacher. I've loved having the opportunity to work in the Young Parent Centre. I'm excited to work alongside our staff to help build and encourage healthy, strong relationships.



Chelsea Eastwood

My name is Chelsea Eastwood and I am the Education Assistant in the Young Parent Centre. My career started at 19, working as an Education Assistant at Hamilton Senior High School. I have now been working at Port School for 3 years. My main role is to engage the young mums in their education and to provide support with their parenting in a supportive and holistic environment. I enjoy my job, as I get to watch the young mums grow in their confidence, and their babies reach their developmental milestones.



Michelle Zietsman

My name is Michelle Zietsman and I have been working at the Young Parent Centre at Port School since 2017. My family immigrated to Australia in the beginning of 2011. A decision to re-skill myself resulted in initially enrolling at TAFE to study a Double Diploma in Community Services and Counselling. Upon completion, I enrolled in a Bachelors degree in Counselling at Edith Cowan University. I am still studying and skilling myself as a Psychotherapist by undertaking a Masters in Counselling and Psychotherapy. I am passionate about counselling, as it has proven to help most emotional, relational and psychological difficulties that individuals experience in life, such as anxiety, depression and panic feelings. I feel honoured and privileged to be part of the Mental Health and Support Team based at Port School.



Mike Gilbert

My name is Mike Gilbert and I started at Port in 2010 and have been a Teacher, Special Projects Coordinator and now Deputy Principal. I have been in education, training, social inclusion and crime reduction roles for over 20 years, with periods in the consulting and corporates worlds also. I like to bring my connections, stakeholder relationships and life experiences to Port and turn them into beneficial programs, new business development ideas, activities and experiences that students can take away with them. Setting up the YPC & ELC back in 2014/15 was a pinnacle of my time at Port and seeing the expansion five years on brings me so much joy. I am very proud to be able to oversee and line manage the awesome and incredibly diverse team that offers our students every opportunity to have educational and life success and have been thrilled to be part of their exciting annual mums and bubs camp for the last few years.

Families

We aim to develop and build upon mutually respectful partnerships. We believe that families:

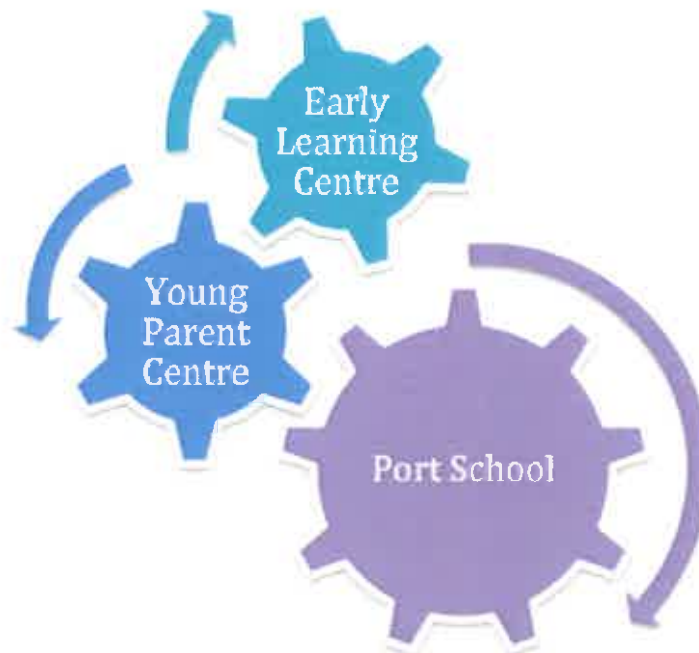
- Are the principle influential people in a child's life and are therefore always welcome within our centre, its planning and management
- Are advantaged by open, honest communication about the centre, and its practices. They benefit when trusting relationships are developed and educators and families share information
- Are diverse and are invited to share and celebrate their culture and values
- Have the right to equity, privacy and confidentiality

Community

We all belong to a wider community which:

- Consists of diverse organizations and individuals who have special talents, knowledge and experiences which can enhance the curriculum and services offered to children, families and staff
- Benefits when children and families are supported to be positive, active contributors to their society.

The two centres need to collaboratively work in cohesion, with many areas overlapping.



Programs will include stimulating indoor and outdoor learning experiences which include quiet and active times, individual, small group and large group experiences. In addition our programs are flexible and allow for spontaneous experiences.







**Australian
Human Rights
Commission**

everyone. everywhere. everyday.



National Children's Commissioner: Megan Mitchell Visits Port

Following on from a successful visit to the Australian Young Pregnant & Parenting Network conference in Queensland earlier in the year, Mike Gilbert and Michelle Forsyth got to spend time sitting on a panel with the National Children's Commissioner, Megan Mitchell.



When Mike got back to Perth, he invited the Commissioner to visit the school and talk to the young mums. Guess what? Megan came over at the end of November 2019 to have a look around the school and have a meet-and-greet with our young parents in a Q & A workshop forum. Megan's Children's Rights Report has paid specific attention to young people who are parents or who are having a baby.





What a great day! Megan, who had flown over from Sydney, toured the school, meeting staff and students, including Port's young mums. Megan's role with the Australian Human Rights Commission sees her consult, talk and discuss youth-related issues across Australia, making recommendations and taking on board the students' thoughts and comments. Thank you Megan, for taking the time to come over.

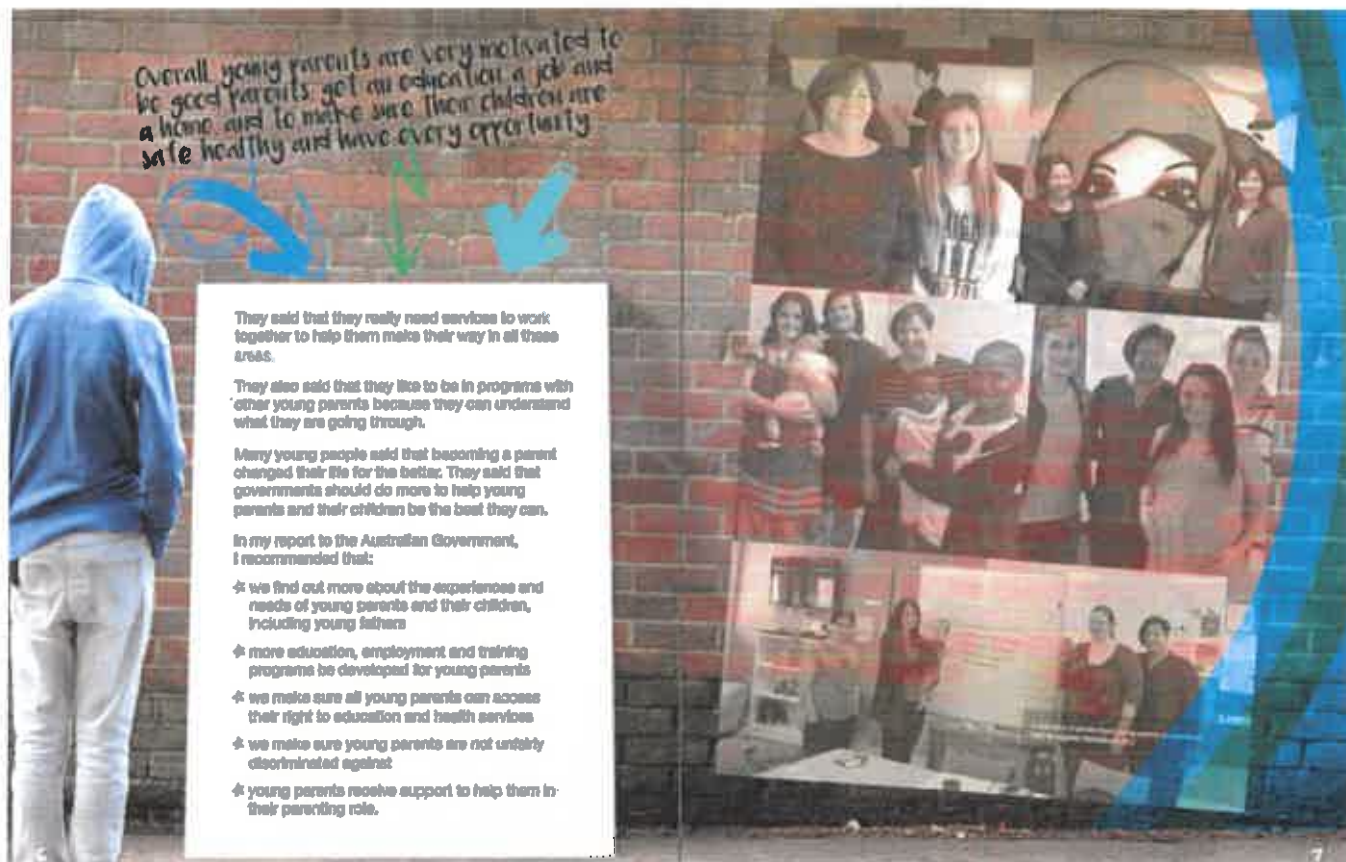


Photo taken from National Children's Commissioner - Children's Rights Report 2017



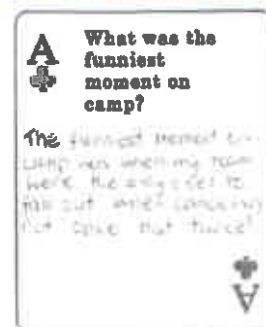
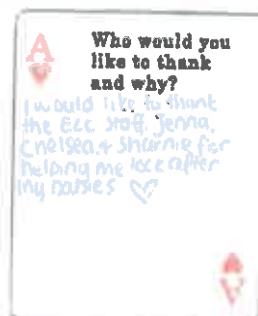
MUMS & BUBS CAMP



@ FAIRBRIDGE VILLAGE, PINJARRA

One of the aims of the Young Parent Centre is to provide a broad range of educational and learning experiences for the young mums in the centre. We planned and organised the first ever Mums and Bubs camp to Fairbridge, Pinjarra in November 2017. The overall aim was to provide an opportunity for the young mums to experience a camp with their child and to participate in a range of activities and parenting programs. It has become an annual event and a fabulous part of the program.





TESTIMONIALS

The YPC gave me, my son and all the other young mums the opportunity to create unforgettable memories. We got to experience new things and become closer with, not only fellow peers, but also the staff and our own children. I had an incredible time on camp and it has been one of the best two days spent with my son. I'm incredibly thankful to everyone who made this possible for us.

Shayana

It was such an amazing experience being away from home. I had a great time trying new things and making memories. I have never been on camp before. It was a great experience getting to know other mums and their kids. I made more friends and I would love to go on one again. I have so many wonderful memories to take home and it was an amazing opportunity for me and my son. I just want to say a big thank you to the YPC and ELC staff for creating his opportunity.

Albertine

Thanks to Jenna's hardwork and organisation we were lucky enough to be able to take part in the first ever mums and bubs camp. It was an amazing experience. One of the highlights was our last night, when we threw a little disco for the babies. Seeing how happy they all were was definitely my favourite part of the whole camp.

Jamila

Partly sponsored By **Simone McGurks School Fund Grant**



Simone McGurk
State Member for Fremantle

P: 9336 7000 E: fremantle@mp.wa.gov.au

Proudly supporting schools in our community.



Success story

Lizelle is to be congratulated on completing both her Cert III and Diploma in Early Childhood and Education. Lizelle enrolled externally in her course and utilised the support of the teams in the Young Parent Centre (YPC), the Early Learning Centre (ELC) and Port School to complete her qualifications.



Lizelle is to be commended on the dedication and commitment she has shown to complete not just one, but two qualifications, while continuing to support her child. Lizelle has also gained some work experience in the ELC, along with completing her designated work placement hours in another child care centre.

Lizelle has now left Port School to pursue her dream of working with children in an Early Learning Centre.

Good luck in your future Lizelle and we hope to hear of the amazing things you achieve!!!



UNIVERSITY BOUND

Rachel has achieved her academic and personal goal of completing her Community Services Certificate III and Child Care Services Certificate III at Port School.



Rachel has gained entry into Murdoch University's On Track University Enabling course. The course runs over 14 weeks and will allow Rachel to enroll into a Bachelor of Nursing in Semester 2.



Rachel's ambition is to become a Midwife, having had two little babies of her own, Bethany and Connor, all while completing her studies. Rachel is to be commended on achieving her success, attributable to her rigorous study timetable and advance planning.

Rachel was also awarded the Leadership Award last year at Port due to the qualities she displays at school and being a great role model to her peers.

Well done Rachel and best of luck in your career pathway!!!

Working towards a brighter future for young families

Our Young Parent Centre and Early Learning Centre can provide you with all the support you need to complete your studies and develop and enhance your parenting skills



Contact Us

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THE YOUNG PARENT CENTRE & EARLY LEARNING CENTRE IS
SUPPORTED BY PORT SCHOOLS, ASSOCIATED WITH PORT SCHOOLS
WITH THE SUPPORT OF EDUCATION, REGIONAL, LOCAL GOVERNMENT
AND VOLUNTARY PARTNER ORGANISATIONS. BOTH CENTRES ARE NOT
FOR PROFIT ENTERPRISES.

SUPPORTING YOUNG PARENTS

YOUNG PARENT CENTRE



- Are you pregnant?
- Are you under 21 years of age?
- Do you have a child under 5 years of age?
- Would you like support to reach your educational goals?



At Port Young Parent Centre we believe that each student and their child deserves an enriching environment to learn and grow.

WHAT WE OFFER

Education & Training

Our purpose built centre will provide you with all the opportunities to continue your studies in a holistic environment. With opportunities to complete Certificate I, II & III in General Education for adults, Certificate III in Community Services, Certificate II in Hospitality, Sport & Recreation, Visual Arts or support with external studies



Experienced Counsellor

Receive emotional counselling in a safe and secure environment by a fully qualified counsellor and psychiatrist



Early Learning Centre

Our Early Learning Centre is a fully accredited, registered Child Care Centre. The stimulating, well equipped centre and nature play garden will enrich your child's holistic development. The staff will provide quality care and education through play encompassing The Early Years Learning Framework



Additional Programs

Support is available from various community and government agencies and support workers. Programs include: Parent Support, Parenting Skills, Parenting Training, Parenting Advice, Nutrition Education, Coping on a Budget, and many other family support programs.



TEEN MUMS IN MALAYSIA

Port School has run an international excursion since 2012, taking students from Port to a special needs orphanage school in Klang, Malaysia. Port students have raised over \$150,000 over the last 8 years to support the students there by sponsoring orphans to be able to attend the school.



Ashlyn



Sharnie

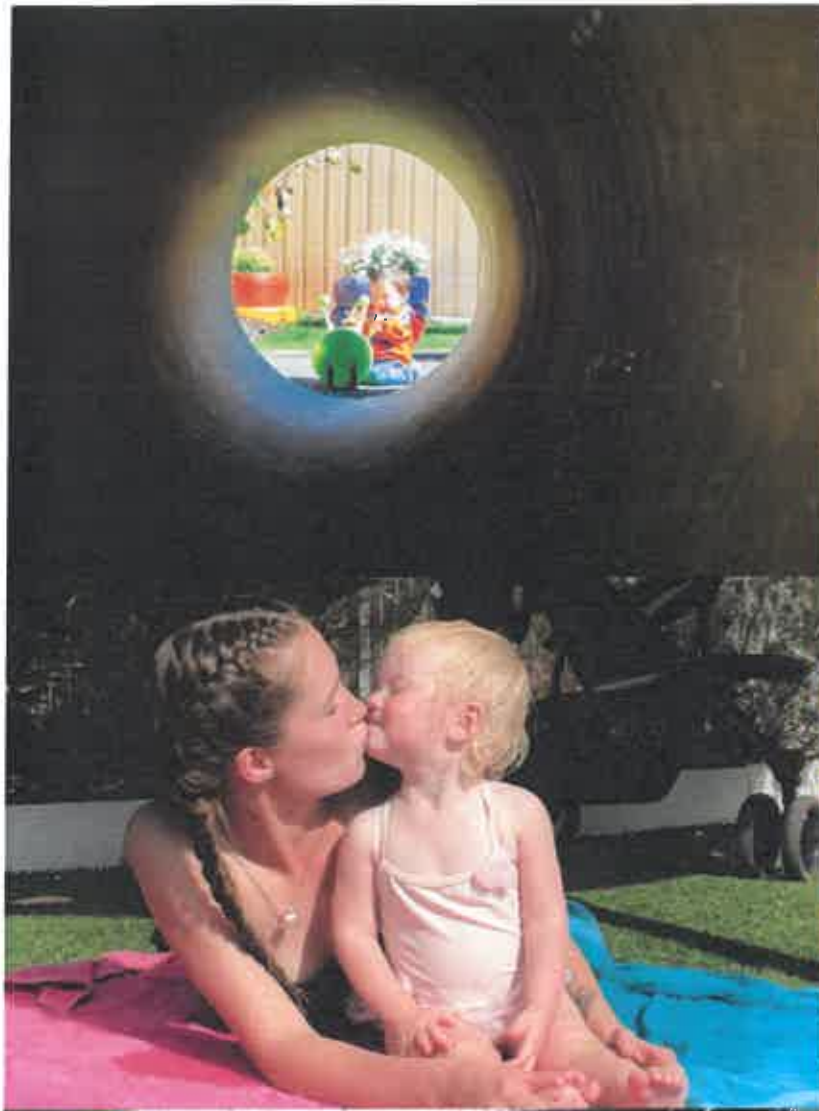
Whilst in Malaysia, they spend time with the students at Klang School and are part of an amazing cultural, educational and humanitarian excursion.



Kirrilly above found it challenging being away from her son and family, but several years on, she has come back stating how amazing the excursion was and is planning on sponsoring an orphan student in Klang by donating several hundred dollars.

Not wanting our young mums to miss out on this opportunity, we looked into the options of how we could support them being part of this amazing program. With support from extended family, partners and YPC staff we are thrilled to have had three of our young mums be part of this experience over the last several years. Once again promoting that mums can do anything and just because you might be still in school and be a mum, the educational world is still theirs to grab at every turn.





PORT SCHOOL YOUNG PARENT CENTRE

BY MICHELLE FORSYTH

PORTSCHOOL IN HAMILTON HILL, Western Australia recognised the need to provide a purpose-built teen parent centre due to high pregnancy rates amongst teen girls. The inception of providing this service commenced in 2012 in consultation with various agencies, networks and government departments, including the Department of Education, ACECQUA and Lotteries West. The logistics were completed in 2014 with the acquisition of land behind Port School.

The project of building both a **Young Parent Centre** and **Early Learning Centre** began in 2014 with support from

staff, students and the community of Port School. Many of Port's students were involved with various construction stages of both centres. In September 2015, Hon Peter Collier, MLC, Minister for Education opened both the **Young Parent Centre** and **Early Learning Centre**.

Port School's **Early Learning Centre** (ELC) was imperative so the young mums could feel safe with the knowledge that their children were right next door and accessible any time during the day. The ELC provides a supportive environment for up to 17 children aged from birth to three years. The centre is fully accredited and registered, and follows the *Australian Early Years Learning Framework*. The focus is on play-based learning and improved outcomes in language and communication skills and socio-emotional development.



The Co-ordinator and staff from the ELC work collaboratively with the Co-ordinator and Teacher of the **Young Parent Centre** to support the young parent to further develop and enhance their parenting skills. The ELC also has volunteers such as a retired health nurse, teachers and other skilled support personnel who are able to assist both the young children and their families.

The **Young Parent Centre** (YPC) provides an holistic and cohesive environment, where the young mums are provided with both parenting support and training to achieve educational outcomes. The young mum is enrolled in Port School and attends the YPC anywhere from three to five days per week, with many attending five days a week. The YPC is able to accommodate up to 15 young mums each day and

they can continue to attend until the year they turn 21.

Friday is a compulsory playgroup morning where the young mum, their partner and their families are able to spend time and interact with their child. Playgroup provides an opportunity for both the parent and child to play together and develop socio-emotional, cognitive and physical skills. This encourages and enhances critical relationship building skills in a safe, stimulating and supportive environment.

The **Young Parent Centre** is staffed with a full-time co-ordinator and teacher, with support offered by various agencies and corporate mentoring. This includes St John of God who provide outreach support and Visy who have kindly offered mentoring for the young mums with their Service



Manager, Maria Quagga. Maria helps support the young mums with job readiness and practical skills including resume and CV writing, preparing for an interview and participating in a mock interview at Visy's offices. Other important services which provide support to the young mums and their children include Better Beginnings who offer *Rhyme Time*; a literacy program to enhance both the parent's and child's reading and communication skills, City of Cockburn for support with youth services, Best Beginnings, Kind Edward Memorial Hospital Adolescent Unit and numerous youth and social workers who support the young mums.

The Young Parent Centre provides training in various certificate courses including the Certificate of General Education I, II and III, Community Services Certificate III, Hospitality Certificate II and Sport and Recreation Certificate II. The young mum is able to enrol externally in other courses, in which she can receive educational assistance; this includes Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care and Diploma in Community Services.

The young mums engage in parenting activities to further develop and enhance their parenting and relationship skills. Sids and Kids provide free on-site training in safe sleeping practices and all mums complete a senior first aid course. Healthy eating and cooking within a budget is promoted and the young mums participate in a cooking class once a week with a qualified food nutritionist/cook. Recreational activities

are encouraged and provided with other Port School students; such as hip hop dance and sport and fitness to promote a balanced lifestyle.

Even though the YPC has only been operating for one year, we have been able to support many young women with housing, financial issues, health matters and to obtain their drivers license. Two mums have obtained paid work experience in childcare centres and next year will see our first young mum apply for admission into university to undertake a nursing degree.

Port School's Young Parent Centre is able provide support to teenage pregnant and parenting women in a cohesive, non-judgmental environment. All young mums have a chance to succeed in life, improve their socio-economic outcomes and be able to support their own children with literacy, numeracy and other core foundation skills. Port School in collaboration with numerous agencies is helping to make a difference to each teenage mum and her child's life.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
MICHELLE FORSYTH

 youngparentcentre@portschool.wa.edu.au



Student letter

May 2019

Dear Michelle F

When I first came to port I didn't have a lot of hope for the future nothing seemed to be going right. You have given me the strength, knowledge and parenting skills to be a student and a mother that I never thought I could be. Every hurdle, and there's been A LOT, you have been right by my side. I could not be more grateful for pushing me through my certs and telling me off for getting off tasks. You have been there since day one since being only just 16 and a pregnant teenager, to now a nearly 20-year-old mother to a almost 3 year old.

My little boy came into our lives at basically the same time from just a couple days old, being a newborn and sleeping, being breastfed and little cries. To now being a big almost 3 year old, who runs around crazy to his hundreds of NO'S. Port school has been such a huge part of his learning and life and in turn has turned out to be a fairly smart, kind and happy little boy. I'm sure he will miss everyone's babies, the girls and all the staff just as much as me.

There is no better gift than teaching me how to be the best mother to my son that I can be. Knowing my family, you know that I haven't had many good role models, I completely commend you for ensuring I don't follow in there footsteps and be the change I needed to be for myself and my son. I whole hearted believe I would not be the mother to him that I am now if it weren't for you and Port School. For that I will be eternally grateful it has been the most priceless gift anyone has given me.

YPC has been my second home and probably always will be. The environment here is like a family, so much love, sympathy, understanding and encouragement. You, the staff, and all the girls have been my rock in literally the hardest struggles of my life. There have been moments were I really thought that there was no light at the end of all this and this amazing classroom has pulled me out of that and showered me in love and compassion. Words can't describe how much I'm going to miss each and every single one of you that I am leaving behind.

I'm so excited to move onto this next chapter of my life which I am thankful to say is all because of you guys. I cant wait to graduate and show you that I've taken everything you have given me and used it to the best of my advantage. I have an endless amount of love for you, the YPC staff and everyone of the girls who have been apart of my crazy journey with Port School. Good Luck to every single one of the girls I know you will help every one of them reach there potential like you have for me.

So so so much love and appreciation
(Favourite student of all time)

xxxxxx

PAST STUDENT VISIT

It is always great to see a past student. YPC's Kirrilly Hale came back to visit us in February.



Awesome to hear about her new mobile dog wash business 'Pups and Pooches Divine' and how she wants to help with sponsorship for Malaysia 2020.

Pamper Hydrotherapy

Including:

- Shampoo
- Conditioning
- Ear & eye clean
- Towel/blow dry
- Brush out
- Fragrance

All this for just \$30!!



Pups and Pooches Divine
Mobile Dog Wash

Smelly pooch? Call us today!
0478 735 888

Well done Kirrilly, fabulous to see you so well and hear about you and your family.



It was great to welcome back Kirra Lee Feakes, a past student at Port's Young Parent Centre earlier this month. Kirra is currently completing her Cert IV In Youth & Community Work whilst living a hectic life being a mum as well.



Kirra was one of the first young mums who came through the YPC when it opened in 2015. Kirra and her partner Nathan are about to embark on building a house on a block of land they purchased, exciting times ahead for them both.

It was great to hear Kirra's news and that she is doing so well. They might even be an opportunity for Kirra to undertake some of her practical hours towards her course at Port, which would be fantastic for her and the school.

It is always so pleasing to have students come back and visit and for us to hear those success stories and how life is going. So if you fancy dropping in to say hello, there is always a warm welcome for past students and families. You will be surprised how much we have grown here at Port.

Come Visit Us!



“Without the YPC I would not have been able to finish my studies. They have also helped me enrol in external courses.”

AGUER AJANG 21
STUDENT AT PORT YOUNG
PARENT CENTRE
STUDYING CERTIFICATE II
CGEA AND CERTIFICATE III IN
INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT.



“The YPC has given me direction, encouragement and support to be the best version of myself for my son and I.”

LEIGH GORRARD 30
MOTHER OF TWO CHILDREN
PARENT COORDINATOR
AND ACADEMIC COORDINATOR AT
PORT YOUNG PARENT CENTRE



“The Young Parent Centre has helped me become the Mother I always wanted to be.”

SALLY LUTHER 30
MOTHER OF TWO CHILDREN
PARENT COORDINATOR
AND ACADEMIC COORDINATOR AT
PORT YOUNG PARENT CENTRE



email: youngparentcentre@portschool.wa.edu.au

**YOUNG PARENT
& EARLY LEARNING CENTRE**

PORT SCHOOL - HAMILTON HILL

CONTACT: MICHELLE FORSYTH - 0468814950

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our ELC Christmas Party is a much-anticipated event at Port School. It is a time where we can all come together and celebrate the amazing year we've had. Students and Staff contribute food, bringing in the food that means 'Christmas' to them.



The children are entertained with face painting, giant bubbles and glittery crafts. And of course it wouldn't be a Christmas Party without presents and a visit from Santa.

Past Student Success Spotlight

Shayana Kiely

Shayana commenced in the Young Parent Centre as a 16 year old, pregnant with her gorgeous son Kalljah. Shayana has faced much adversity, and has managed to complete her Certificate II and III in the General Education for Adults. Shayana has left the Young Parent Centre to pursue her dream of completing a Nursing degree. Shayana is currently completing her final year of a Diploma in Nursing, which will enable her to fast track her University degree within two years. Shayana will complete her studies as an Enrolled nurse and we are all excited to see her commence her employment in this field, as she continues her studies. Well done Shayana on your success!!!



Kennedy Tolland

Kennedy started in the Young Parent Centre three years ago and in that time she has completed her Certificate II and Certificate III in General Education for Adults. Kennedy is to be commended on gaining entry into Murdoch University and is currently completing the Bridging course to enrol in Forensic Toxicology, with a double major in Criminology. Kennedy's child is now attending four year old kindy, after coming into the Early Learning Centre as a baby. Well done Kennedy, what an inspiration you are!!



WELL DONE

Past Student Success Spotlight

Faith Edwards

Faith has attended the Young Parent Centre for the past two years. Faith has completed her Certificate in General Education, as well as her Certificate III in Community Services. Faith is currently volunteering at Uniting Carewest, and is hoping to gain full time employment in the community services sector. Faith is still able to leave her child in the Early Learning Centre while she furthering her career. Congratulations Faith on your achievements and we look forward to following your employment and educational outcomes.



Keely Cotton

Keely has been enrolled in the Young Parent Centre for three years. Keely has not only completed her Certificate II in General Education for Adults, but also her Certificate III and a Certificate IV in Education Support. Keely has completed experience in local primary schools, as well as supporting the middle school and the Young Parent Centre, here at Port School. Keely is currently taking a gap year from University, where she will either enrol in Nursing or Primary Education, while she works as an Education Assistant. Keely has overcome many challenges to achieve her success and should be very proud of what she has achieved!!



Celebrate

WE WANT TO SAY

THANK YOU

FOR ALL THAT YOU DO

There are a multitude of organisations, agencies and people that support our centre and young mums through their educational and parenting journey. We would like to thank you all for your support, donations and ongoing services. You all make this a very special place.

Stephanie Dowden – Nurse Practitioner



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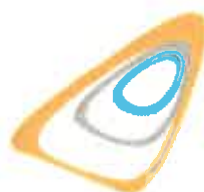


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