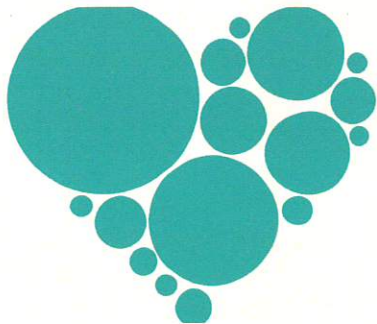


About the program

Brimbank-Melton **Child FIRST** (Child and Family Information, Referral and Support Teams) is a partnership between ten agencies in the West and the Department of Human and Health Services. Child FIRST is managed by MacKillop Family Services.

It was established to:

- Provide a central referral point into Family Services Programs.
- Ensure that vulnerable children, young people and their families are linked with community services and supports.
- Build strong connections between agencies to assist with co-ordination and planning.



Contact us

Enquiries or referrals can be made by families directly or by professionals working with the family.

For more information or to make a referral contact Child FIRST on:

 **1300 138 180**
 **mackillop.org.au/child-first**

MacKillop Family Services

ABN 79 078 299 288

Melton Health and Community Services
195-209 Barries Road, Melton VIC 3337

Monday to Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm

Child FIRST is based at MacKillop Family Services and provides a centrally co-ordinated intake to Family Services agencies in the suburbs of Brimbank and Melton.



MacKillop Family Services acknowledges the Traditional Custodians and their Elders in each of the Communities where we work.

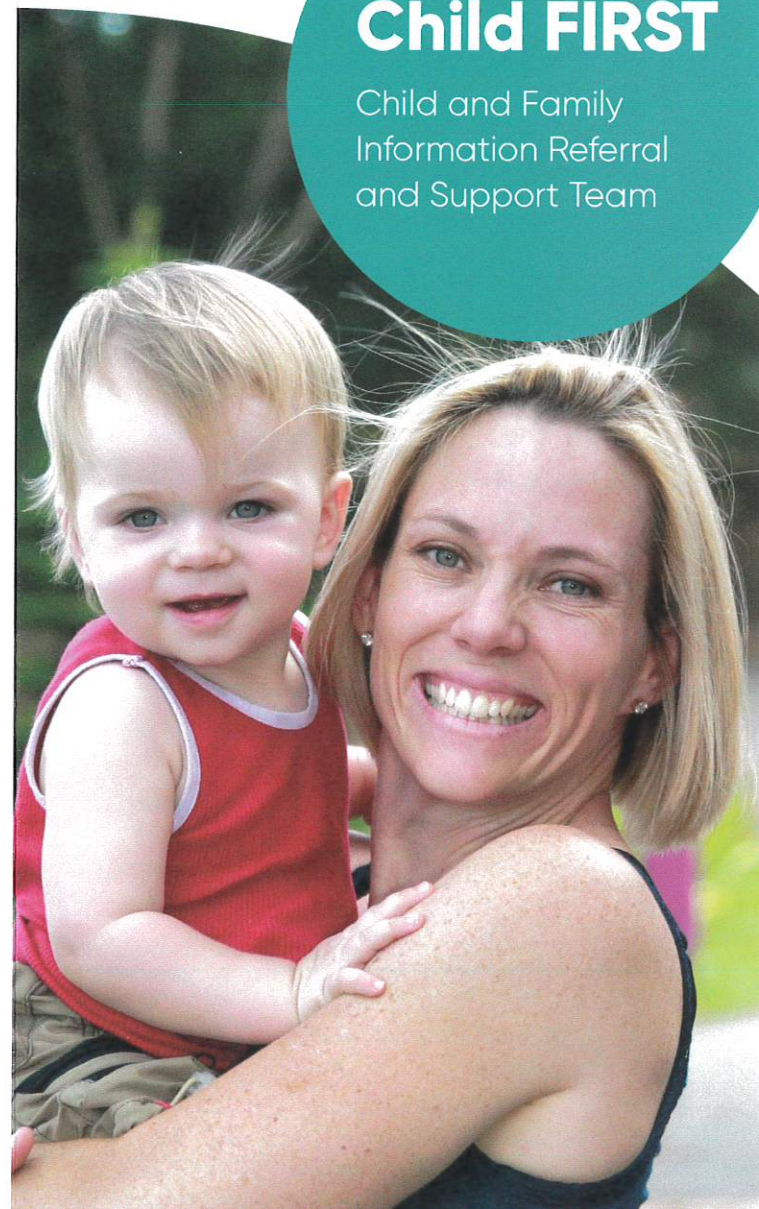


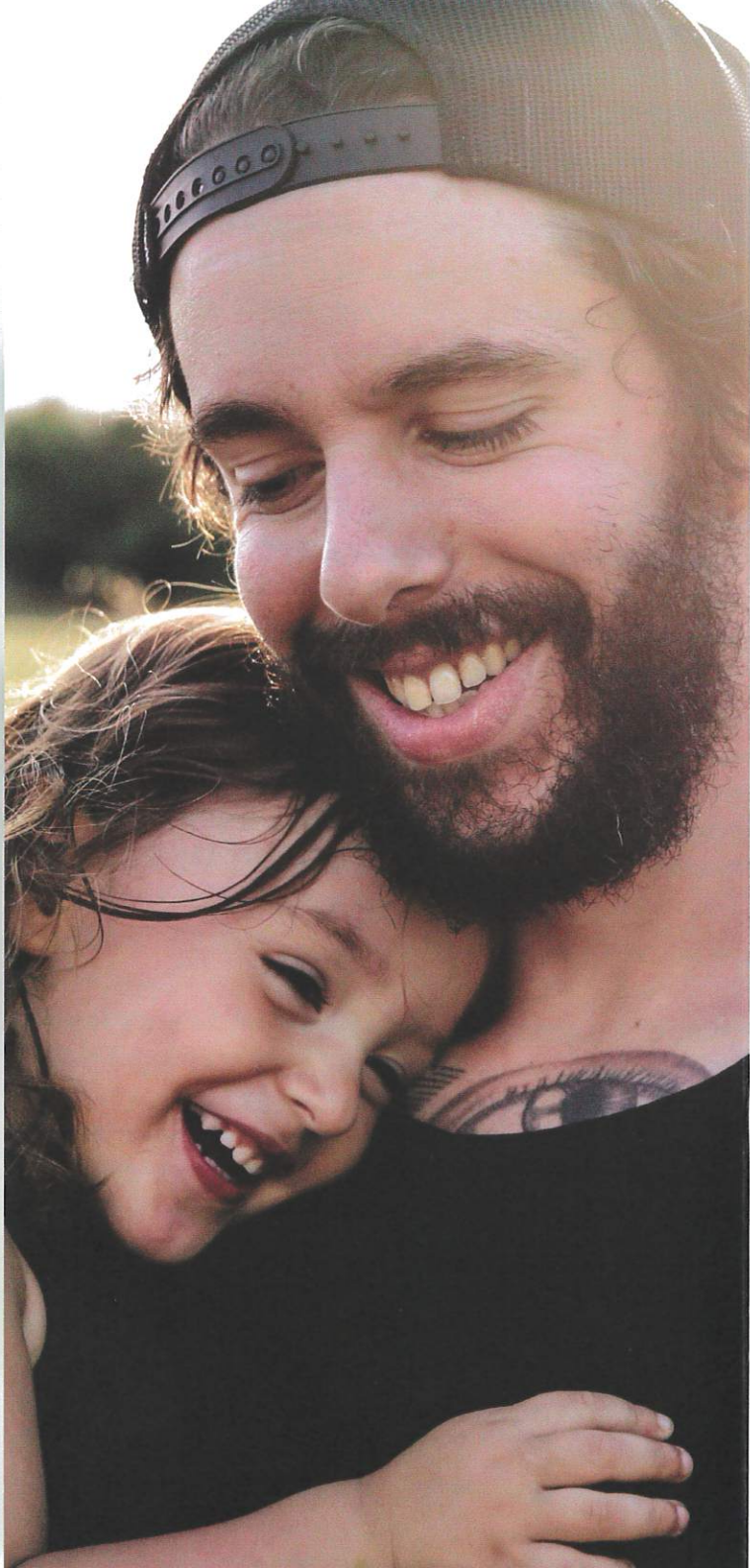
mackillop.org.au



Child FIRST

Child and Family
Information Referral
and Support Team





Who can be referred?

Child FIRST provides information and referral for families in Brimbank and Melton, who have children between 0-17 years, including unborn children.

Child FIRST provides referral for families who require support with issues such as:

- Parenting concerns and managing children's behaviour.
- Family conflict and breakdown.
- Physical or mental health issues.
- Dealing with the impact of substance abuse.
- Isolation and feeling lack of connection with their community.
- Connecting you to other services.

Family Services are community based voluntary services, so families need to agree to participate.

What will happen?

In deciding the best support for families, Child FIRST may:

- Provide information and advice to the family and/or professionals involved.
- Talk with families about what assistance they need and how they can best be supported.
- Link families with Family Services or other suitable community agencies.
- With the family's consent talk to professionals who work with the family to better understand family needs.
- Talk to an Aboriginal Liaison Worker or culturally and linguistically diverse worker who can make sure we provide a service that meets the needs of the family's culture.
- Consult with a Community Based Child Protection Worker if there are serious concerns about children's safety, stability and development.