



COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

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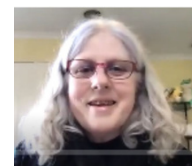
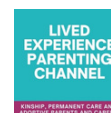
QUICK LINKS

**Journal Club -
Last 2021 Topic
27/12/21**

**Click & Connect -
Orders &
Passports
17/11/21**



Youtube Recording - Kinship Care with Bobbi Cook (Pt 2)



Bobbi Cook is a behaviour therapist with 30+ years experience and a very devoted kinship carer to her 13yo grandson. Bobbi understands the demands of caring and has lots to share, so much that we needed two videos to capture her insights! This is part 2. Bobbi suggests:

- children from trauma and ADHD/ASD and others may have an impaired theory of mind, meaning you need to match them on intensity for them to understand and learn empathy
- neurotypical triggers occur in Y2-3, Y6-7 and as puberty hits, but for children from trauma their chronological and developmental ages are what matters
- children from trauma often have more advanced expressive language than receptive or intrinsic language so get yourself a speech therapist
- children from trauma will have sensory processing issues so get an occupational therapist to do an assessment to get NDIS support
- for school refusal, ask your school teachers for 5 minute zooms 3 times a week, as only strong relationships will get them back to school (they can read a book together or chat)
- ability and capacity are separate
- manage your fear of their behaviour by having a firm strategy in your mind and practice wiggling your toes!

To listen to the recording access it [here](#)

News - Vaccination Evidence

Did anyone find it challenging to download evidence of young peoples vaccination status? Some of us certainly did!

Here are some guidelines for those that might need it.

There are guidelines for those who have Medicare [here](#) and guidelines for those who don't have Medicare [here](#).

For those that don't have a smartphone instructions are in the picture to the right.

How to get proof of your COVID-19 vaccination without a smartphone



You can download and print your COVID-19 digital certificate or immunisation history statement from: [MY.GOV.AU](https://my.gov.au)



If you can't print, call:

AUSTRALIAN IMMUNISATION REGISTER
1800 653 809

Ask them to send proof of your COVID-19 vaccination to you. It can take up to 14 days to arrive in the post.



If you are getting vaccinated at a GP or pharmacist, tell them you do not have a smartphone or printer and require a hard copy of your immunisation history statement. Ask them to print your immunisation history statement for you at your appointment.

Take proof of your COVID-19 vaccination with you everywhere you go. You will need to show it to enter some businesses and venues.



If you need more information about COVID-19 vaccinations in your language go to:

www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccine



For more information in English, visit: www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaxproof



News - Homestretch

You would likely be aware the Homestretch program was expanded to include children turning 18 who are on permanent care orders to be supported by an allowance, either when leaving care or while remaining with carers, up the age of 21. We wanted to share with you two videos from the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing that illustrate the difference Homestretch can make. Find out more about Tobias who became homeless after care was removed and listen to his thoughts on the "Make it to 21" campaign [here](#). Learn more from Alkira [here](#) who wanted independence from her carers and is studying to be a teacher despite finishing high school in Year 10. Everyone needs a little support sometimes and its great to see dreams being supported in this way!



"Improving the lived experience of young people"

Journal Club - Last JC topic for 2021

Topic: To be Announced

Please join us at 8pm on **Thursday December 2** by [registering here](#)



Click and Connect - Care Orders, Passports and the Childs Voice



Please join us at midday on **Wednesday 17 November** by [registering here](#)

When and what can change in care orders over time and what can you impact? How do passports work? How do you manage birth family contact and share photos and other information? Knowing what is a requirement and what is "best practice" can help in making important decisions surrounding your child. So please join us to discuss this important topic.

Each Wednesday fortnight various parents and carers come together on Zoom to learn from each other and share their challenges and lived experience in our Click and Connect meetings.

We share the joys and the struggles and find new ways to tackle situations by sharing together.

We welcome any new parents or carers too!

Flexi-Funds

A reminder that PCA Families has Flexible Funding available to meet the extraordinary needs of children and young people subject to a Permanent Care Order, or where you are receiving DFFH care allowance and have a Family Court Order or Special Needs Adoption Order.

Flexi funds can be used for therapeutic, educational and medical services, to build skills, interests or attachment, to elevate family contact and cultural identity, to offer respite, home medication or other services like whitegoods, one off clothing, estate planning or vehicle needs eg car seats.

[For details about what the funds can be used for - see here](#)

PCA Families cannot guarantee we are able to fund every application and request received.

PCA Families access to COVID-19 funding support will cease at the end of 2021.

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Permanent Care and Adoptive Families, PO BOX 201, FITZROY VIC 3065
info@pcafamilies.org.au www.pcafamilies.org.au 03 9020 1833

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