

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

WWW.PCAFAMILIES.ORG.AU



QUICK LINKS

Journal Club - 3/3/22

Click & Connect - 23/2/22



News - Permanency Options & Support

PCA Families commissioned a review of the current state of permanent care and adoption in Victoria to understand the support being offered to create a stable and permanent arrangement for children in care. As part of this report, the various permanency options and what they mean for families was identified, covering matters such as inheritance rights, birth certificates, key parenting decisions and financial supports. You may find this table interesting. We did!

See part of the table here to the right or access the full table [here](#).

	Care by Secretary Order/ Extension of Care by Secretary Order ⁶⁸	Long-term Care Order	Permanent Care Order ⁶⁷	Local Adoption with DFFH funding ⁶⁸	Plenary Adoption (local and intercountry) ⁶⁹
Duration of order	Maximum of 2 years	Ends at 18	Ends at 18	Lifelong	Lifelong
Who applies for the order	DFFH	DFFH	DFFH	DJCS	Adoptive parent
Birth family consent required	No	No	No	Yes, unless court ordered	Yes
Inheritance rights flow	Birth family	Birth family	Birth family	Adoptive family	Adoptive family
Birth certificate acknowledgement	Birth parents only	Birth parents only	Birth parents only	Adoptive parents	Adoptive parents
Child's surname	Birth parents	Birth parents	Birth parents	Adoptive parents	Adoptive parents
Can the order be revoked?	Yes -Can expire at term; be revoked at any time or another order can be made	Yes -Reviewed each year	Yes -Can be revoked through application by birth parent, child or DFFH i.e. if placement breakdown	No	No

"Improving the lived experience of young people"

News - First Aid and CPR

If you are interested in updating your First Aid qualifications, or learning how to respond to life threatening emergencies. PCA Families can help with flexi-funding. For those who may be interested, consider one of the small group face to face classes on First Aid and CPR, such as this one with St Johns. See [here](#).



News - Covid-19 Vaccination Status Survey



We have been requested by DFFH to obtain more information on the COVID -19 vaccination status of permanent carers, local adoptive parents and family court order parents who are currently receiving the DFFH allowance. We would appreciate you taking a few minutes to complete the survey. See the survey link [here](#).

News - Free RATs

From Monday 21 February we will have access to free Rapid Antigen Tests for any child (3-17yo) in a permanent care family or a family receiving the DFFH care allowance for their child. We will have up to 4 available per child (one months supply). Please access the order form [here](#).

News - Fun vaccination venues - legoland & more

From 12 February COVID-19 vaccination sites will commence at some child friendly venues, including Scienceworks, Melbourne Zoo and Sealife Aquarium. Children (5-11 yo) and their families will be provided free access to the venue following their vaccination. To attend please provide name of child/family members/attendees/parent contact details/preferred site (as per below) to Jamie-Lee Trimble <Jamie-Lee.Trimble@dffh.vic.gov.au

Venue	Date	Time	No of children
Melbourne Museum	These venue dates have expired	Vax from 9:00am	Up to 30 per day
Melbourne Zoo		Vax from 9:00am	Up to 50 per day
Sealife Aquarium		Vax from 1pm - 3pm	Up to 30
Scienceworks	19-20 February	Vax from 9:00am – 12:00pm	Up to 30 per day
Immigration Museum	19-20 February	Vax from 9:00am – 12:00pm	Up to 30 per day
Legoland Chadstone	20 February	Vax 10am to 1pm	Up to 30
State Library of Victoria	19-20 February	Vax from 10:00am – 1:00pm	Up to 50 per day
Healesville Sanctuary	26-27 February	Vax 9:00am to 12:00pm	Up to 50 per day
Werribee Open Range Zoo	26-27 February	Vax 9:00am to 12:00pm	Up to 50 per day

"Delivering trauma-informed services that empower"

Click & Connect - Challenging Behaviour



Please join us at midday on **Wednesday 15 February** by registering [here](#)

TOPIC: How to manage challenging behaviour - learnings from other carers

Do you find things you do have unintended consequences? Sometimes things come up in your child that are challenging. Or it can be scary to ask for help? And then there are all those from afar with their theories on what you can do or should have done differently. You are the expert on your child and we will honour that while reviewing suggestions we have received in our Youtube recordings from caregivers with lived experience.

HOMEWORK: Please listen to the Youtube Recording by Kinship Carer Bobbi Cook Part 1. If you have time, Part 2 has some great content too! Links [here](#).

PURPOSE: 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.

Journal Club - Thursday March 3



Journal Club Thursday March 3 – topic to be decided

At present Journal Club is continuing online with the anticipation that we will arrange for face to face sessions as soon as we are able to. We are always looking for guest speakers and topics that you would like to hear and learn about so please forward any ideas or queries you may have to Deborah@pcafamilies.org.au

To register for March Journal Club click [here](#). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

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 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.

Subscribe to Facebook, LinkedIn or Youtube by clicking these links



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

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.