



COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

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Journal Club -
3/3/22

Click & Connect -
23/2/22



News - Join the Childhood Trauma Conference

DATES: 31 July to 5 August 2022

WHAT: Face to face connection, healing and learning about childhood trauma

INFORMATION: The Australian Childhood Foundation is offering an incredible week-long events for professionals (or carers) who work with people affected by trauma associated with abuse, violence and relational disruption. World experts on neuroscience, trauma, attachment and therapeutic intervention share their insights.

For detailed information see the program guide [here](#).

COST: Flexi funding can be applied for to fund this training.

REGISTER: For 1 or more days (5 days) by 28 February 2022 by completing a flexi funding application [here](#) or by registering direct [here](#)

This is an opportunity to share and learn from each other - more than 10,000 delegates have participated over the past three conferences.

News - You can access Carer KaFE training!

As you may be aware, PCA Families members have access to Carer KaFE training, learning and support programs. See [here](#). Whether you have attended in the past or may attend in the future, Carer KaFE is committed to providing programs that best meet all needs, so they want to learn from you about their programs. The Carer KaFE survey is anonymous and asks questions designed to learn more about your needs. Access the survey [here](#).

"Improving the lived experience of young people"

News - Free RATs & New Rules

The use of Rapid Antigen Tests as a screening tool has been extended to April in schools and early childhood settings. Additional RATs will be delivered fortnightly to sessional kindergartens, long daycare, family daycare and occasional care over the remainder of Term 1 to ensure ECEC services have an adequate supply. Children attending OSHC receive kits from their enrolled school. For further information see [here](#). Changes to density limits and the removal of QR codes for checking in at various venues have also been amended. For further information see [here](#).

News - Flexi-Funding Tips

If you are unsure whether your application for flexi funding has been saved, or progressed, you can check "my forms" in the portal to see the status of the application. Access the portal on the website (login). An example of a partially completed form is below.

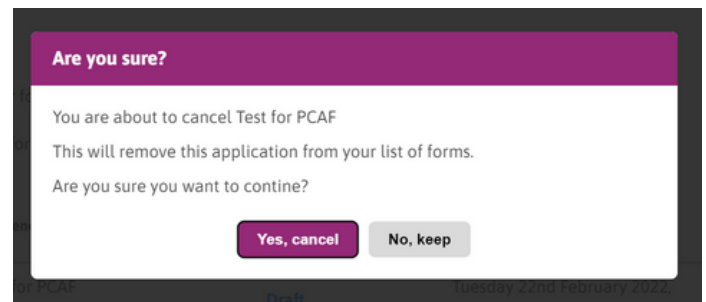
My Forms

This list allows you to keep an eye on your form submissions, and view your submitted details.

If you get mid-way through completing a form, you can save your changes and come back here to continue completing the form.

Form	Reference	Current Status	Last modified	
Flexi Funding Form	Test for PCAF	Draft	Tuesday 22nd February 2022,	View Cancel

If you have started an application but changed your mind, or started a new one, you can also cancel the application in "my forms". Simply select the grey cancel button (pictured above) and you will see this screen to the right. Select "Yes, cancel" and we will delete the application.



Once your application has "Being Assessed" as its status, there is no further change to the status until the application is finalised. It will then show a status of approved, cancelled or rejected on the OzChild portal, and you will receive updates on its status from that site.

You can include more than one child and more than one item on an application (it is quicker to process one application with several items than individual applications for each as we assess how much has been provided to each child and your family).

**"Delivering
trauma-
informed
services that
empower"**

News - DFFH Care Allowance & Funding Rules

We need to have current proof that you are receiving the DFFH Care Allowance to check you are eligible for flexi funding. If you don't have a remittance within 30 days of the date of the application, please call the DFFH carer reimbursement line and ask for a copy : 1300 552 319.

We can only provide funding after all other sources have been tried, so we are now asking you to confirm that you have tried other relevant funding sources when lodging a flexi funding application (eg medicare, private health cover, NDIA), and let us know what you have tried.

Please provide all relevant referrals, particularly if for holiday camps and other services where its important for your child's safety that they are trauma informed services, or for play equipment so that we know its safe for your child.

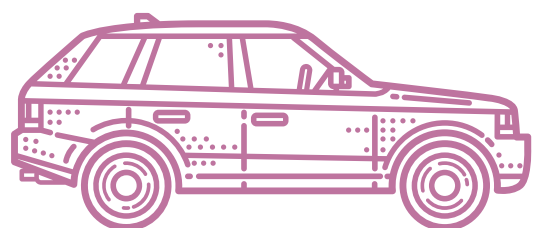
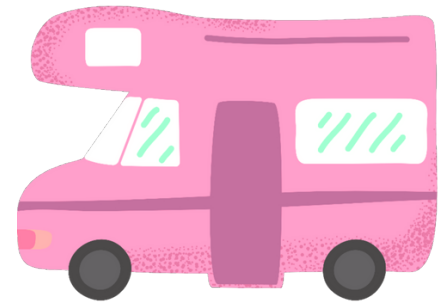
News - Funding for Major Assets

What happens if I request a major asset of \$5,000+ that can be transferred or sold?

If you apply for an asset worth more than \$5,000, like a car, that can be transferred or sold to someone else, we will require you to sign a consent to monitor that you retain the asset for the use of your permanent care or eligible child/ren.

The asset is being provided with government funds and as administrator of the funds, PCA Families has an obligation to ensure that the funds are used solely for the benefit of a permanent care or other eligible child. We also have an obligation to ensure that funds are distributed fairly and equitably to all those who need them.

If you sell, transfer to another family member or friend, or your placement breaks down, please contact us to let us know what has happened. We will then advise whether you need to dispose of the asset and return the proceeds from sale, or if the value of the asset transferred (for no consideration) needs to be deducted from your future applications.



"Delivering trauma-informed services that empower"

Click & Connect - Challenging Behaviour



Please join us at midday on **Wednesday 23 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.

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