

# Placement Statement

## Banjup Home

### ▪ Introduction

The Department for Child Protection operates a number of Residential Group Homes for children who are at-risk and cannot live with their families.

### ▪ Purpose of the Placement Statement

This placement statement has been developed to guide Departmental staff in placing children in appropriate residential care facilities and to guide members of the community in expressing concerns regarding a child's behaviour.

### ▪ Placement

As part of the placement process, an assessment of the child's needs, behaviours and history will be undertaken by Department staff. Previous behaviour that includes lighting fires, harming animals or sexual aggression will be identified prior to any placement being made. The Department will not place children in the Banjup home where the child's behaviour poses a current risk to the community.

On admission to a Residential Group Home, a residential care plan and a safety plan are developed for the child. These plans address identified risk factors and consider the safety of the child, other children residing at the home, staff and the community. The documents are confidential.

### ▪ Recommended Actions in Response to a Concern Regarding a Child's Behaviour

The Department aims to provide the children living in the Residential Group Homes with a 'home-like' environment and a sense of 'normality'. This includes, developing positive relationships with neighbours and community groups. Members of the community are encouraged to respect the rights and privacy of the children living in Residential Group Homes in a similar way that they would other neighbours.

On occasions, a community member may want to express a concern regarding a child's behaviour. The following is a general guide of recommended actions to follow.

### ▪ In the Event of a Concern Regarding Non-criminal Behaviour of a child

In the first instance, contact the House to discuss the specific concern.

If you consider the response to be unsatisfactory, contact the House Manager during work hours.

After-hours, if you consider the response to be unsatisfactory and the concern is of a serious nature and requires an immediate response, contact the On-call Manager.

The Department undertakes to investigate concerns expressed by community members regarding a child's behaviour and to offer the community member an explanation of the actions taken in response to their complaint.

In the event that the community member is not satisfied with the action taken, contact the Director, Residential Care to discuss the situation.

### ▪ In the Event of a Concern Regarding Criminal Behaviour of a Child

Contact the police.

### ▪ Communication Protocol for Problems at Banjup House

The House Manager will inform a BRG Office Bearer (Secretary) within 24 hours where a child:

- has been missing for more than 24 hours
- absconds and commits a crime, against property or persons, in the Banjup community
- or, both of the above.

Every 6 months the House Manager will send a dot point report to the BRG Secretary on issues that might concern the Banjup Community.

### ▪ Further Information

Western Australia Police

<http://www.police.wa.gov.au/Localpolice/tabid/885/Default.aspx>

The Department for Child Protection

<http://www.dcp.wa.gov.au/Pages/Home.aspx>

### ▪ Contact Numbers

Banjup House **9499 1084**

House Manager, Amanda Reynolds **0427 447 564**; email [Amanda.Reynolds@cpfs.wa.gov.au](mailto:Amanda.Reynolds@cpfs.wa.gov.au)

On-Call Manager **0427 999 850**

Assistant Director, Tracey Nicolson, **9249 0100**; email [Tracey.Nicolson@cpfs.a.gov.au](mailto:Tracey.Nicolson@cpfs.a.gov.au)

Director Residential Care, Sue Williams **9249 0100**

Police Assistance **131 444**