

Awareness

The QFCC is committed to promoting and raising awareness of the rights of children and young people in Queensland through:

- gathering and using the perspectives of Queensland’s children and young people to inform and influence the decisions made by government
- purposeful, ethical and inclusive engagement with children, young people and families.

This aligns with QFCC responsibilities, under the *Family and Child Commission Act 2014*, to engage with, and take account of, the views of children, young people and their families and uphold the rights of children to participate in decision-making that affects their lives.

While all our work seeks to enable meaningful participation from children and young people, three key engagement mechanisms used in 2020–21 were the:

- *Growing Up in Queensland* project
- *Families are First* project
- QFCC Youth Advisory Council.⁹

Engagement and education

Growing Up in Queensland 2020

The *Growing Up in Queensland* project gives Queensland children and young people the opportunity to share their views about their community, their hopes and dreams, and the issues most important to them.

The project offers young Queenslanders aged 4–18 years a broad range of opportunities to communicate directly with government.

In 2020, the project collected data from more than 8,000 Queensland children and young people through an art activity, a postcard activity, a survey for children aged 8–12 years and another survey for young people aged 13–18 years. Data was collected between April and July 2020.

The project found:

- children and young people want more, youth-friendly public spaces for recreation and spending time with friends
- most young people believe their community is a place where they belong but, many do not feel heard by adults
- young people identify youth mental health, the environment and education as important issues for people their age. They hope for further education and for employment.

These findings were promoted through:

- publication in July 2020 of an interim report outlining the results of the first seven weeks of data collection
- a final report and fact sheets about key findings, published and launched in April 2021.

Growing Up in Queensland report launch

On 28 April 2021, *Growing Up in Queensland* report was launched at an event at the State Library of Queensland.

Members of QFCC’s Youth Advisory Council presented findings and the Minister for Children and Youth Justice and Minister for Multicultural Affairs delivered a speech. The event was attended online and in person by representatives of government organisations, community organisations and schools.

Growing Up in Queensland data was presented to the State Library of Queensland for archiving in its ‘Queensland Memory’ collection.

⁹ The QFCC’s Youth Advisory Council supports the voices of children and young people and provides youth perspectives and leadership to the QFCC. It is currently made up of 22 young people aged between 14 and 25, known as ‘Youth Advocates’, who represent regional and metropolitan areas and who provide advice on a range of QFCC initiatives, including policy submissions and system reviews.

Amplify—Through my eyes

As part of *Growing Up in Queensland*, the QFCC's Youth Advisory Council launched a visual arts opportunity for young Queenslanders called *Amplify—Through my eyes*. *Amplify* gave young Queenslanders aged 13–18 years the opportunity to visually show their worlds, their communities, their hopes and dreams, and the issues that are important to them.

In all, 46 pieces of artwork were received.

The winning artwork was chosen in a unanimous decision, and was featured on the front cover of the *Growing Up in Queensland* report. The other pieces of artwork will progressively appear in other QFCC publications and be highlighted on social media.

Amplify—Young minds can't wait hackathon

The hackathon¹⁰ was part of the QFCC's response to the findings of *Growing Up in Queensland 2020*.

Of the youth survey respondents, 33 per cent said they have an emotional or mental health condition. Young Queenslanders also said that mental health was a top issue of importance, with many sharing the specific barriers they face such as mental health stigma, the costs of accessing support, waiting times and the challenge of accessing services in regional and remote locations.

On behalf of the QFCC, the Youth Advisory Council, together with BOP Industries (a youth-led organisation run by and for young people), facilitated a hackathon workshop that gave young people the opportunity to come up with innovative responses to the concerns raised. The hackathon was attended by QFCC Principal Commissioner Cheryl Vardon and Tracey Adams, Chief Executive Officer of yourtown (a charity that provides services young people can access to find jobs, learn skills, become great parents and live safe, happy lives).

At the event, a total of 51 registered young people aged 15–25, (34 in person and 17 online) co-designed several youth-led responses to the mental health concerns raised by young Queenslanders. Projects were started in the areas of education curriculum, app development, teacher education, mentoring and web-based information portals.

The young people will continue to be supported in the further development of their projects as members of the BOP Industries Young Entrepreneurs Hub. These memberships have been funded by the QFCC to continue support of youth-led projects across Queensland.

Amplify blogs

Born out of the QFCC's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the QFCC, in partnership with the Youth Advisory Council, has created a monthly blog where Youth Advocates share their views about the issues most important to them.

Topics discussed in the *Amplify* blog include the COVID-19 lockdown, education and starting university. The QFCC actively promotes *Amplify* blog through its communication channels.

Queensland Youth Week—10–18 April

The QFCC supported several events during Queensland Youth Week in 2021.

Youth Advocates were invited to facilitate discussions for the Minister for Youth in Brisbane and in Rockhampton, providing more opportunities for young people across Queensland to connect and have their say about local issues.

The Youth Advisory Council also met with the commissioners to discuss results and next steps from the hackathon and *Growing Up in Queensland*. An *Amplify* blog entitled *Youth Champion, Youth Member* was released.

¹⁰ A hackathon is a workshop to delve into and 'hack' apart an issue so that solutions to the concerns raised about that issue can be developed.

Online safety—*Out of the Dark*

This initiative involves the collaboration of the QFCC with the Queensland Police Service Task Force Argos, the Department of Education, the Office of the eSafety Commissioner, yourtown and Bravehearts.

Out of the Dark helps children, young people and adults to prevent, recognise and respond to online child sexual exploitation. It undertakes community education activities to raise awareness of the need for online safety, especially regarding online sexual grooming of children and young people.

Since March 2020, reports to eSafety about online harms have surged, demonstrating the importance of community education initiatives like *Out of the Dark*.

The *Out of the Dark* Steering Committee met twice in 2021. Outcomes included:

- discussing key information and trends on COVID-19 and how the increased reliance on the digital world has impacted young people
- commitment for the steering committee to focus on leveraging sector partnerships and collaborations to amplify important messages in the online safety
- re-circulation of the *#doiknowyou* awareness campaign in April 2021 through the Queensland Police Service. The videos had over 599,000 impressions¹¹ on a social media browser and 163,000 engagements¹² with social media posts.

Work is underway to plan the forward program.

Families are First

The *Families are First* program was launched in 2019 and is the culmination of work by the QFCC to showcase the stories of strong, proud, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and communities. *Families are First* celebrates the strengths of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and uses community engagement and education activities to highlight the strengths of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child-raising practices.

The *Families are First* program aims to contribute to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander self-determination by inspiring and empowering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and communities to celebrate and share their stories by:

- exploring strengths (such as culture, connection and attitudes) used by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and communities to raise thriving children over the past 60,000 years
- celebrating families' positive stories (for example, through a story-telling approach)
- sharing these stories throughout the community (the general public, media and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities) to show the value of support and supportive networks in child development and wellbeing.

During 2020–21, *Families are First* activities included:

- *Deadly Digi Yarns*: a capacity- and capability-building project teaching young people skills to capture their own stories and training organisational members to teach video-making skills. These workshops were held in Mossman and Cairns West
- *Story collection*: an ongoing activity where the *Families are First* program team works with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, young people, families and communities to capture their stories in innovative ways
- *Yarn Up cards*: with support from the QFCC, *Yarn Up* cards were developed by the Tiddas Yarning Circle in Townsville. The set of 30 inspirational statements centre on the themes of family, culture, strength, identity and hope and were launched in November 2020. *Yarn Up* cards are a resource that can be used in schools, community groups and workplaces to get conversations started and encourage people to explore their cultural identity and recognise their strengths.

11 An impression is the number of times that a video or social media advertisement has appeared on a social media user's screen. In the context of the *#doiknowyou* campaign, the videos appeared on a social media user's screen over 599,000 times.

12 This number of engagements refers to actions taken by the social media viewer (such as comment, share, like, click on link).

All *Families are First* initiatives align with the United Nations *Convention on the Rights of the Child* by giving participants the knowledge to use their voice to express their thoughts. Participants can build on their talents and abilities, which in turn helps celebrate their identities, culture, country, community and family.

To date, the program has collected 45 stories from participants from Far North, North and South East Queensland. These stories have been shared through QFCC social media platforms and promoted online and through community radio. The *Families are First* webpage and YouTube channel host 32 video stories.

Talking Families

The QFCC has continued with *Talking Families*, a community education initiative designed to reduce stigma and instil confidence in parents about seeking and accepting support with the stresses of parenting. *Talking Families* empowers parents to seek information and support early, before problems escalate.

Key successes of the *Talking Families* initiative this year were:

- an increase of more than 70 schools joining up to *Talking Families*
- the launch of events at Bremer State High School and Carseldine Journey Early Learning
- continued high engagement with *Talking Families* content, with an average post reach of over 100,000 per month through the *Talking Families* Facebook page
- promotion of the *oneplace* Community Services Directory.

Schools and services that sign on to the *Talking Families* program are supported by their local Family and Child Connect service. This partnership provides schools and services with a local touchpoint for conversations or engagement when supporting families.

As at June 2021, 181 schools and services across Queensland were actively delivering the *Talking Families* place-based delivery model.

oneplace Community Services Directory

The *oneplace* website¹³ provides a single point of access to more than 59,000 community services across Queensland. It was developed to help children, families and professionals find the right service in their local area.

In 2020–21, 195,007 *oneplace* searches were conducted—a 10 per cent decrease on the previous year. During this period, more than 2,650 community and government organisations added their services to the directory.

The continued use of *oneplace* is a positive sign that Queenslanders are seeking support for challenges, before problems escalate.

Children’s Rights

The QFCC has continued its relationship with Children’s Rights Queensland¹⁴ in delivering a range of programs to educate the Queensland community about children’s rights under the United Nations *Convention on the Rights of the Child*.

Highlights of the program this year included:

- Children’s Week 2020, which included:
 - a special event at the *Big Voices: Children’s Art Matters* exhibition in partnership with the State Library of Queensland
 - more than 65 public and private events held throughout Queensland
 - a youth-led webinar called ‘Generation of Change’, which had 47 attendees

¹³ Queensland Government 2020, *oneplace* Community Services Directory, <http://www.oneplace.org.au/>

¹⁴ Children’s Rights Queensland is a non-profit organisation that promotes children’s rights through initiatives (such as Queensland Children’s Week) that raise awareness of children’s rights, needs and achievements. It also engages, empowers, and supports children and their communities.

- the launch of the *Young Leader's Challenge*. This is a free, contemporary leadership program empowering high school-aged children to lead and engage others in initiatives that support the rights, needs and accomplishments of children
- affiliation membership of 16 organisations who agreed to champion the rights of children
- establishment of an Ambassador Program to generate awareness of children's rights in local communities
- launch of the TypeRights font competition to engage children and young people in designing a font to build awareness of children's rights.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children's and young people's interactions with the justice system

In response to the Queensland Law Society's 2020 Call to Parties Statement, the Queensland Government has tasked the QFCC to undertake a culturally appropriate community conversation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people about their interaction with the justice system. This was part of the *Growing Up in Queensland* survey.

This project will:

- gather the perspectives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people in a culturally appropriate way
- give voice to the children and young people involved in Queensland's youth justice system
- identify opportunities to improve the Queensland youth justice system through the perspectives of children and young people.

This project is currently in the early stages of its development.

Speak up and make a complaint—National complaints project

Partnering with the Commissioner for Children and Young People Western Australia, the QFCC has developed a set of national resources to help children and young people know their rights and be able to make a complaint.

The resources were developed in response to the child safe standards recommended in the final report of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

The QFCC conducted face-to-face focus groups in Cairns, Townsville and South East Queensland and promoted an online survey across Queensland.

The majority of the young people we heard from were from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage. By engaging with Multicultural Australia,¹⁵ we were also able to capture voices of children and young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

Through this project, we provided key insights into what the resource should look like and who it should target. A key outcome was evidence that adults as well as children needed to know the rights of the child and also know how they can support young people in raising their concerns.

Core to the project's success was true youth participation, with members of the QFCC Youth Advisory Council leading a number of youth-led focus groups.

In December 2020, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet released the *Speak up and make a complaint* resources.¹⁶

¹⁵ Multicultural Australia (formerly Multicultural Development Australia) is Queensland's settlement service provider for refugees, people seeking asylum, international students and other new arrivals to Queensland with the goal of creating a fairer, more prosperous society for all Queenslanders.

¹⁶ National Office for Child Safety 2020, *Speak up and make a complaint*, <https://childsafety.pmc.gov.au/resources/speak-up-make-complaint>

Child Rights Impact Assessment

During 2020–21, the QFCC prepared a Child Rights Impact Assessment to raise awareness of children’s rights. It enables officers to consider:

- the purpose of a particular policy, program or legislative reform
- the positive and negative impacts it might have on children’s rights
- the effect on different groups of children and young people
- whether measures can be taken to reduce, remove or mitigate those impacts.

An implementation strategy to encourage use by agencies across the broad child and family support sector is under development.

Partnerships

The QFCC develops and maintains partnerships with a broad range of peak bodies, industry partners, communities, advisory groups, academics, and government and non-government organisations.

In 2020–21, we worked with many partners, including:

- QFCC Advisory Council and Youth Advisory Council
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Health Service Brisbane (on *Young, Black and Proud* scholarship sponsorship)
- Australia and New Zealand Children’s Commissioners and Guardians
- Family and Child Connect
- Department of Education (a partnership on the *Talking Families* school initiative)
- Office for Youth (on Queensland Youth Week)
- Australian Institute of Family Studies
- Queensland Child Protection Week Committee
- Strategic Cross-Agency Oversight Group
- QFCC Reviews Strategic Oversight Group
- Family Matters
- Queensland First Children and Families Board
- Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Protection Peak
- Queensland Council of Social Services
- Peak Care Qld
- Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council
- Children’s Rights Queensland (collaboratively delivering programs advocating for the rights of children).

The QFCC also chairs the QFCC Community Partnerships Group, an advocacy alliance of non-government peak bodies and statutory bodies. This forum enables the QFCC to engage and partner with key stakeholders and system influencers to identify and discuss persistent and emerging strategic issues that impact on the rights, safety and wellbeing of children and young people.

By working collectively, the member agencies of the group strengthen their powers of advocacy, using their different roles and areas of influence. Meetings are held four times per year.

Advisory Council

In line with Part 4 of the *Family and Child Commission Act 2014*, the Principal Commissioner has established an advisory council to:

- help promote the shared responsibility all Queenslanders have for keeping children safe
- provide insight into the issues affecting children, families and the child and family support sector
- provide guidance on the work of the QFCC.

The Advisory Council met three times in 2020–21. The membership is currently made up of:

Cheryl Vardon	Chief Executive Officer and Principal Commissioner, QFCC (Chair)
Natalie Lewis	Commissioner, QFCC (from June 2020)
Kay Ganley	Former owner and Chief Executive Officer, Charlton Brown
Assistant Commissioner Cameron Harsley APM	Organisational Capability Command, Queensland Police Service
Hetty Johnston AM	Former founder and Chief Executive Officer, Bravehearts Inc
Zoe Rathus AO	Senior Lecturer in Law, Griffith Law School
Heather Watson	Director and Principal Lawyer, Watson Advisory & Consulting Pty Ltd
Dr Gerald Featherstone	Chief Executive Officer, Kummara Association

Youth Advisory Council

The QFCC's Youth Advisory Council champions the voices of children and young people and provides youth perspectives and leadership to the QFCC.

The Council meets regularly and provides advice to the commissioners and the QFCC on what is important to children and young people in Queensland. It works with other young people to identify the important issues, then it designs and implements responses to address these issues.

The Youth Advisory Council has up to 25 members, with a current active membership of 22 young people aged between 14 and 25. Members, known as 'Youth Advocates', have diverse backgrounds and represent regional and metropolitan areas. In 2020–21, they provided advice on a range of QFCC initiatives, such as *Growing Up in Queensland*, policy submissions and system reviews.

In recognition of the value of their contributions, the QFCC facilitates Youth Advocate participation in various internal and external opportunities including conferences, stakeholder events and media opportunities. Youth Advocates also receive ongoing professional development and guidance during their tenure, particularly in relation to communication and advocacy skills.

2020–21 also saw the Youth Advisory Council model expand to establish Critical Friend Networks. The functions of these networks are to create spaces to:

- connect existing youth advisory groups across Queensland and support collaboration
- allow Youth Advisory Council alumni to remain engaged with youth participation and areas they are passionate about
- empower all young Queenslanders who want to get involved and have their say.

In April 2021, five Youth Advocates facilitated youth-led discussions with Minister Scanlon (Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Youth Affairs) during her three-stop *Speak Out Series* tour to connect with young Queenslanders and hear their ideas on what a future Queensland could look like and how young people think this can be achieved.

The Youth Advocates, current as per 30 June 2021, are:

Aastha	Aastha is a high school student who, as a young person with a passion for social change, brings a powerful voice and unique perspective to the Youth Advisory Council leadership team. She has undertaken voluntary work and believes that through active participation, she can truly make a difference in the lives of Queensland youth.
Aden	Aden has represented Queensland in futsal and is passionate about sports and nutrition. He was raised in Australia and has Arab heritage. Aden is committed to speaking out against racism and bullying and the negative impact it can have on the lives of young people growing up in diverse communities.
Aimee	Aimee is a proud Worimi woman and works in the out-of-home care space. She is a strong advocate on issues such as youth justice, homelessness, housing, disability, minorities and disadvantaged people. Aimee is committed to supporting vulnerable young people in having a voice and being heard.
Alyssa	Alyssa is studying for a Bachelor of Arts. She is a second-generation Japanese Australian who experienced the blending together of two different cultures growing up. This has given her a passion for multiculturalism and speaking out against racism. She is also a passionate artist with a sculpture featuring in the 2020 Swell Festival.
Ameya	Ameya is a high school student, a United Nations Youth Student Ambassador and a 2019 United Nations Voices of Youth state finalist, and she has been awarded a Rostrum public speaking award. As a proud second-generation Australian, Ameya enjoys a diversity of experience and tradition through her heritage and appreciates learning about other cultures and their beliefs and traditions.
Ben	Ben is studying for a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Global Studies. He was a recipient of the Australian Future Leaders' Justice and Equity Award and the Peter Dutton Public Speaking Award. Ben has previously worked as a Youth Ambassador for Save the Children Australia, where he delivered the Youth Manifesto for Change to the Australian Government.
Bitá	Set to finish school in 2021 as College Leader for Spirit and Community, Bitá is heavily involved with United Nations Youth and was a finalist in the United Nations Youth Evatt Competition, winning two Diplomacy Awards at Bond University's Model UN conference. Bitá is passionate about youth engagement and diplomacy.
Bri	Bri grew up in Cairns, completing a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and English at James Cook University before relocating to Brisbane. She is studying for a Master of Teaching at the University of Queensland and is eager to teach in high schools soon. Bri is also a 2021 YMCA Youth Parliament member.
Brooke	Brooke is a Warajuri woman from New South Wales. She plays sport, in particular touch football. Brooke is studying a Bachelor of Criminology and Criminal Justice. She works at the JT Academy (with retired rugby league player Jonathan Thurston) and at Complete Corporate services (with retired rugby league player Scott Sattler). Brooke is passionate about youth engagement, amplifying the voices of First Nations young people, domestic and family violence and sexual assault prevention.
Caroline	Caroline is studying for a Bachelor of Human Services and a Bachelor of Criminology and Criminal Justice. She has a deep interest in the family and child support system. Caroline is a strong advocate for children and young people living in out-of-home care, having worked with the CREATE Foundation ¹⁷ to promote systemic change in the sector.
Gefion	Gefion is a Year 12 high school student studying the International Baccalaureate (IB). She is conscious of the environment and aims to study environmental engineering at university and apply her problem-solving skills to real-world issues. Having spent many years overseas, she aims to build an understanding with those around her to set an example for equality and to embrace diversity.

¹⁷ A national consumer body representing the voices of children and young people with out-of-home care experience.

The Youth Advocates, current as per 30 June 2021, are: *(continued)*

Gloriose	Gloriose is from a Burundian background and is passionate about changing the mindset of young people from low economic areas. She likes to get involved in activities that help young people achieve their dreams. Gloriose likes to share her own story as an empowerment tool and is very interested in youth mental health, especially how schools approach this topic. Gloriose is in her final year of school and is working for the JT Foundation. She is very active in her local community about youth participation.
Grace	Grace is a Bachelor of Psychology (Hons) student, minoring in Clinical and Counselling Psychology. Grace is a 2020 Millennium Fellow, an RSL Queensland and AVCAT Scholar, and the recipient of a Griffith Futures Scholarship and 2020–21 Health Dean (Research) Summer Scholarship. Grace uses her theoretical knowledge and lived experience to advocate for mental health, chronic illnesses, invisible illnesses, and the LGBTQIA+ community.
Holly	Holly is a Grade 12 high school student who hopes to study a dual Arts and Law degree. She is the Junior Deputy Mayor of the Gold Coast, the President of the Junior Chamber of Commerce and Queensland representative for the National Constitutional Convention. She is also a member of the Queensland Theatre Youth Ensemble, and a member of the Youth Women’s Council of Australia and the Australian Youth Climate Change Coalition.
Kathryn	Kathryn is a practising solicitor and an advocate for equality and inclusion. She is a member of Pride in Law, the only LGBTIQ+ legal network in Australia. She is also a member of the executive committee of the YMCA Queensland Youth Parliament, as mentor to the Child Safety, Youth and Women committee. Kathryn is experienced in helping young people who require special assistance.
Kilian	Kilian is a Grade 10 student passionate about bettering Queensland. As a proud French-born dual citizen, Kilian enjoys engaging with as many cultures as possible. He is passionate about ridding the world of bigotry and doubling down on climate action. Kilian enjoys playing basketball and guitar in his spare time.
Kiona	Kiona is a proud Gudjala/Birragubba woman. She sings and raps to express herself, and she loves helping people. Kiona is strongly passionate about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ issues. She loves learning more and more about her culture and loves meeting like-minded people along the way.
Li Xuan	Li Xuan is studying for a Bachelor of Economics and recently completed a student internship in an education start-up in China. Li Xuan volunteers with United Nations Youth Queensland, facilitating insightful conversations about critical global issues with high school students.
Madison	Madison was the 2019 Queensland Youth Volunteer of the Year and was a recipient of the International Diana Award for being an inspiring and exceptional volunteer, mentor and change-maker. Madison was shortlisted for 2019 Queensland Young Australian of the Year and was a finalist for the Australian Human Rights Commission Young People’s Human Rights medal. Madison is studying for a Bachelor of Business.
Malika	Malika is in Year 11 at high school and is a member of the school’s student council as well as an international student ambassador. Malika’s family immigrated to Australia from Vietnam. She truly understands the importance of embracing multiculturalism and enjoys listening to people of different backgrounds share their beliefs and culture.
Shannon	Shannon is studying for a Bachelor of Pharmacy and hopes to study medicine. She presented at the 2019 Youth Health Conference in Melbourne and attended CONVO2019 (a Queensland Government initiative to stop cyberbullying). Through her own experience of living with a chronic illness, she is very passionate about disability advocacy and awareness. Shannon is also interested in mental health, LGBTQIA+ rights, homelessness and education.
Sigrid	Sigrid is a recent high school graduate studying Humanities and Law. She plans to work in human rights advocacy. Her aim is to lead change through compassion, education and fairness. She is particularly passionate about mental health advocacy, domestic and family violence, LGBTQI+ and women’s empowerment, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, histories and cultures.

The year ahead

In 2021–22, the QFCC will:

- undertake deeper analyses of key themes from the *Growing Up in Queensland* 2020 project to further amplify the voice of young people to sector leaders and policymakers

- through initiatives based on the *Growing Up in Queensland* project, continue to give children and young people the opportunity to share their views about their communities, their hopes and dreams, and the most important issues to them

- continue to roll out the *Talking Families* and *Talking Families School's* initiative across the state in partnership with Family and Child Connect and schools

- continue the *Families are First* movement to hear and promote the stories and strengths of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander parenting in Queensland

- support ongoing Youth Advisory Council meetings and Youth Advocate participation in opportunities

- create opportunities, such as the *Amplify* blog, for children and young people to be heard on matters that affect them

- undertake additional youth participation and engagement activities to strengthen connections with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people and young people with lived experience of the youth justice, care and disability systems

- continue to work with Children's Rights Queensland to develop and deliver initiatives to empower young leaders to advocate for children's rights

- implement the Child Rights Impact Assessment

- collaborate with key stakeholders to develop responses that promote behaviours that prevent, recognise and respond to online child sexual grooming

- promote the *Speak up and make a complaint* national resources through QFCC networks.
