

Communities for Children Program Overview 2024-2026 Fairfield



Our community is inclusive, resilient and aspirational, where families and children feel safe, empowered and connected.

Priority areas

- Education, pathways and life transitions – children and families are supported and well-prepared to handle life transitions.
- Partnerships and collaboration – enhanced sector capacity, cross sector collaboration and coordination for effective wrap around services and innovations.
- Building Social Capital - safe and empowered environments through links and connections within the 'whole of community'.

Communities for Children works with local organisations to empower and support a strong, child friendly community.

The Smith Family has been the Facilitating Partner of Fairfield *Communities for Children* since 2005. A Community Strategic Plan (CSP) has been developed to support the progress and implementation of the initiative for the period 2022-2024 in the suburbs Bossley Park, Carramar, Edensor Park, Fairfield, Fairfield East, Fairfield Heights, Fairfield West, Greenfield Park, Old Guildford, Prairiewood, Smithfield, Villawood, Wetherill Park and Yennora.

The primary role of the Facilitating Partner is to work together with local organisations to empower and support a strong, child-friendly community, and to deliver programs that build capacity and address areas of vulnerability and disadvantage for children and their families.

Communities for Children Program Overview 2024-2026 Fairfield



Community Partners are funded to deliver services within the Fairfield area for children aged from birth to 12 years and their families.

NEXT STEPS

Targeting emerging communities and migrant families and children, this project aims to promote early childhood learning by building capacity for school readiness. It aims to build resilience in children and parents to overcome disadvantage and better cope with life transitions through a co-designed program that incorporates evidence-based practices.

Community Partner: Community First Step

Service delivery area: Fairfield CfC area and selected local primary schools

Eligibility: Children aged 0-12 years and their parents/carers living in Fairfield East, Yennora, Old Guildford, Villawood and Carramar.

Contact: Marie Saliba
(02) 8000 9300 | Marie.Saliba@cfs.asn.au

Contact: Minh McCarthy |
minh.mccarthy@cfs.asn.au

ENRICHING KIDS

Provides children and families access to social and community development activities, teaching children resilience, self-esteem and emotional skills. Activities aim to support emotional and behavioural skills for managing feelings and coping with life challenges.

Community Partner: The Parks Community Network Inc.

Service delivery area: Fairfield CfC area and selected local primary schools

Eligibility: Children aged 4-12 years and their families

Contact: Tairyn Vergara
02 9609 7400 | ceo@parkscommunity.org.au

Contact: Shweta Sharma
ekpcoordinator@parkscommunity.org.au



BUILDING A BRIDGE TO HIGH SCHOOL (BBHS)

Aims to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable children and young people transitioning from primary school to high school by facilitating evidence-based programs to equip them with strategies, inspiration, and skills in goal setting; assisting to build relationships between children, young people, their families and their schools to enhance engagement with education.

Community Partner: Woodville Alliance

Service delivery area: Fairfield CfC area

Eligibility: Children in Years 5 & 6 and their families

Contact: Mary Haiek
02 9724 3807 | mhaiek@woodville.org.au

Contact: Mayssa Kamaz
mkamaz@woodville.org.au

Communities for Children Program Overview 2024-2026 Fairfield



GROWING PLAYING LEARNING TOGETHER

An integrated family support and community development project that uses community consultation to inform collaborative and culturally sensitive early childhood service design/development for children who have not yet started formal primary schooling.

Community Partner: STARTTS

Service delivery area: Fairfield CfC area

Eligibility: Children aged 0 - 6 years from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds who have not yet started school.

Contact: Rosemary Signorelli
02 9794 1900 |
Rosemary.Signorelli@health.nsw.gov.au

Contact: Shauna Murphy
shauna.murphy@health.nsw.gov.au

STRONG SAFE FAMILIES

Supports children and their families to understand, navigate and effectively interact with and transition through complex systems such as education/ health/ child protection whilst developing specific skills, strategies and capabilities to improve outcomes for themselves and their entire families.

Community Partner: Prosper (Project Australia)

Service delivery area: Fairfield CfC area

Eligibility: Children and their families aged 0 - 12 years

Contact: Karen Craigie
0402 787 571 | Karen@prosperprojectaustralia.org

Contact: Dima Al BalKhi
mail@strongsafefamilies.online

READY, STEADY, THRIVE!

Delivers invaluable professional support within priority schools and early childhood settings to help address and improve the social, learning and wellbeing capacity of vulnerable and disadvantaged children, helping them to transition confidently and successfully through vital life transitions.

Community Partner: Learning Links

Service delivery area: Fairfield CfC

Eligibility: Children aged 0 - 12 years of age

Contact: Michelle Button
0414584889 | mbutton@learninglinks.org.au

Contact: Paula Cazzulino
pcazzulino@learninglinks.org.au

Contact Us

Yamandu Baldovino
Project Manager
E: Yamandu.Baldovino@thesmithfamily.com.au
M: 0423 478 541

Julia Perera
Project Officer
E: julia.perera@thesmithfamily.com.au
M: 0466 498 512

Laiba Ahmad
Project Officer
E: Laiba.Ahmad@thesmithfamily.com.au
M: 0403 926 707

Communities for Children Facilitating Partner Initiative Fairfield is funded by the Australian Government and facilitated by The Smith Family.