



**ParentsNext is an Australian Government initiative that supports parents of young children in preparing for future employment.**

### **How we help**

We work with parents to help them identify their education and employment goals. We then help parents to gain the skills and experience to successfully find and keep work, once their children have started school. We aim to:

- Help parents decide what they want for their future and start planning to achieve it
- Provide links to the community to support parents to enter the workforce
- Help build stronger communities

### **Measure of Success**

Our goal is to ensure that all participants have an individual Participation Plan in place and are working towards, or have started training, study or work.

### **Compulsory Activities**

Some participants need to undertake a compulsory activity as a condition of their Parenting Payment. If you are required to do a compulsory activity, we will work with you to agree to a suitable and achievable activity, and provide you with reminders, information and support so you can complete it.

### Services for Participants

We'll be in touch with you before your first appointment to welcome you to the program, explain how it all works and agree on a time for our first appointment. We understand that a parent's time can be limited so we will make sure meetings are at a time and place that is convenient for you and that child care is available when needed.

At your first appointment you will meet your Support Officer who will help you throughout your journey. Support Officers understand the local community and have had significant experience in assisting parents prepare for the workforce.

Your Support Officer will ask you about your goals and aspirations – the things you would like to achieve – your skills, your work history and your plans for study or work in the future. Together you will develop your personal Participation Plan. Your Participation Plan will include your goals, the steps you will take to achieve them and how SYC and other organisations can assist you.

Your plan will outline activities tailored for you to reach your goals.

#### **This may include:**

- Career Counselling
- Support in Vocational Preparation
- Attendance at our parent group meetings – *where you can share your experiences with other parents*
- Attendance at information sessions – *about different types of training or jobs*
- Preparing for training workshops
- Identification and enrolment in training or education
- Work readiness workshops
- Work experience
- Involvement in work-like projects to develop business and work skills

### Checking your work-readiness

To check your progress we will use an assessment tool which helps identify your challenges, job specific skills, aspirations and work readiness. The information provided helps us and you track your progress.

### Participation Fund

To assist in supporting you with your preparation to enter the workforce, the Participation Fund can be utilised to pay for training and personal development courses. Funding can also assist you with lessons for car licences and a range of other supports specific to your individual needs.

### Accessible Services

ParentsNext is an inclusive program which is accessible to parents with disability and parents from Indigenous or culturally or linguistically diverse backgrounds. We will work with you to ensure you can access the program. We will also provide key information translated into local languages and arrange an interpreter if you need one.

### Getting Feedback

Our Program is designed with input from parents, your local community, and employers.

We will also ask you to provide feedback through surveys and encourage your ideas at Parent Group Meetings and other sessions.

You can also provide feedback on the program by:

- Visiting [www.syc.net.au/feedback](http://www.syc.net.au/feedback) or
- Emailing SYC on [feedback@syc.net.au](mailto:feedback@syc.net.au), or
- Calling the Employment Services National Customer Service Line on **1800 805 260** (free call from landlines)

### How do I apply?

Talk to your employment consultant about getting involved or visit our website for more information.

### Office locations

#### **Victoria**

Craigieburn  
Dandenong  
Frankston  
Heidelberg  
Preston  
Sunbury

#### **South Australia**

Adelaide  
Blair Athol  
Christies Beach  
Elizabeth  
Marion

#### **Queensland**

Logan Central  
Upper Mount Gravatt