



PPAC

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NEWS WEEK

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Blue card rules set to change

Regular readers may have noticed we have congratulated several of our employees for attaining their Blue Cards over the past few weeks, CEO Ganthi Kuppusamy says.

“The government has announced changes to the blue card system laws which will take effect from Monday 31 August,” she said.

“It’s important for all workers in organisations like PPAC, who engage people – including volunteers – in child-related work, are ready for these changes.

“Previously employees have been allowed to work while their application was being processed but that has changed to a ‘no card, no start’.

“All our workers must hold a valid blue card prior to starting any child-related work, which includes our Long Day Care, Outside School Hours Care, Playgroup, Vacation Care, Family Well-being, NDIS, Counselling services and support, Women’s Shelter on-call work and our Youth Services.”

She said the Government had done several things to make the application process easier and faster online.

“If you are having trouble working your way through these changes, please come and see us in the office here and we can help to get you started,” she said.

For more information see www.qld.gov.au/bluecard or call the Blue Card Freecall Hotline on 1800 113 611



Pormpur Paanthu Aboriginal Corporation is a non-government, community-controlled organisation, established in 1991 out of a community need. Our focus is to provide quality, evidence-based services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in Pormpuraaw. We offer:



- Domestic violence and drug and alcohol preventative education, counselling, advocacy and support for families
- Social & Emotional Wellbeing services;
- Family Wellbeing services;
- Other social services and support;
- Women’s Group activities;
- Outside School Hours Care services;
- Men’s Group activities (including a lawn mowing and yard maintenance service);
- Youth activities & Student Re-engagement services;
- Playgroup;
- Vacation Care activities;
- NDIS (National Disability Insurance Scheme);
- Child Care services (Long Day Care) including, Child & Family Services (CAFS) and parenting support;
- Night Patrol Services; and,
- Women’s Shelter services (Maantchangk Women’s Shelter is open 52 weeks a year has a 7-days a week on-call service).



Last week the Women's Group enjoyed a Yarning Circle around a healthy looking firepit BBQ. Watch our Notice Boards and PPAC News Week for details of the next Yarning Circle event.

Playgroups are informal and relaxed get-togethers of mums, dads, grandparents, carers, children and babies hosted by PPAC, Apunipima Cape York Health Council, the Health Centre and the School.

Playgroups will be held TODAY and every MONDAY at the Corner Shed from 10am to 12pm, every WEDNESDAY at the school from 10am to 12pm and every FRIDAY at the Maantchangk

Women Shelter and/or at the beach from 10am to 12pm. At every session learn new things, we play games and we make things for the children to take home.

Light snacks are provided on Wednesday's at the Corner Shed.

Playgroups can be attended by mothers, fathers, grandparents, nannies or other carers and the babies, toddlers and pre-school aged children in their care - it is important for parents and carers to engage with their child's learning and development.

If you need transport please contact Sandra on 40 604 001.



WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE THE VICTIM OF CYBERBULLYING

1

RESIST THE URGE TO RESPOND

Resist the urge to respond to any hate targetted at you online, it usually just makes it worse if you do.

2

SCREENSHOT EVIDENCE

Before you block or delete, make sure you screenshot.

3

REPORT AND BLOCK

Most social media services, games and apps have a function to make it easy to report and block online bullies.

4

TALK TO SOMEONE

Cyberbullying can make you feel isolated and like everyone is out to get you, but that's not the case. Make sure you talk to people you trust and get support from mates or adults that have your back, and you'll realise that you are not alone.

REPORT CYBERBULLYING NOW

If you have trouble getting the content removed and you are under 18, you can report it to the cyberbullying team at eSafety (<https://www.esafety.gov.au/report/cyberbullying>). We can work with you to get the hurtful content taken down and point you in the right direction to get help and support (<https://www.esafety.gov.au/about-us/counselling-support-services>).

If you are 18 and over, read our tips on how to deal with adult cyber abuse (<https://www.esafety.gov.au/key-issues/adult-cyber-abuse>).

Who to call and when...

If the situation is serious and urgent call our local Police on **4060 4004** or **000**.

Community members can remain anonymous when reporting illicit activity by calling the 'sly grog' hotline on **1800 500 815**.

To report other crime anonymously call Crime Stoppers on **1800 333 000**.

For non-urgent incidents, crimes or police inquiries call Police Link on **131 444**.

ALL WORK AND WALK TOGETHER ON ONE PATH OF HEALING, LEARNING, CARING AND SHARING, CREATING A SAFER ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY

PPAC News Week is edited by Christine Howes for Pormpur Paanthu Aboriginal Corporation ©2020