



# COMMUNITY NEWS

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## Bright Futures

### Our vision is for a brighter future

*Our Bright Futures project was launched on 13 June, 2023 in Brisbane by Luke Twyford, Chief Executive and Principal Commissioner of the Queensland Family and Child Commission. Bruce, Denise, and former Queensland Police Commissioner Bob Atkinson shared their vision for the Bright Futures project. Bright Futures will run national forums and workshops, along with a webinar series and podcast episodes.*

The first nation-wide forum in Queensland brought together national and state stakeholders, professionals, and leaders in child safety to discuss issues related to children with harmful sexual behaviors (HSB), technology-assisted HSB (TA-HSB), and child sexual exploitation (CSE).

Frontline professionals attended the Brisbane workshop which addressed pornography's negative influence as part of broader efforts to prevent child sexual abuse. They discussed the challenges faced when supporting children and families through this complex issue.

The Keeping Kids Safe podcast has launched two new bi-weekly episodes. In the first episode, Bruce and Denise shared insights from their experience working in the prevention of harmful sexual behaviours in children. In the second episode retired Detective Inspector Jon Rouse APM discussed how parents and carers can protect kids on devices online.

On Friday 30 June, we held our first webinar 'Connection is protection' with Rosie Armstrong Lang, a cultural practitioner and CEO of Culturally Informed Practices and Darcy Cavanagh, CEO of REFOCUS Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation.

For further information on upcoming national events and resources from our Bright Futures project head to [danielmorcombe.com.au/bright-futures/](https://danielmorcombe.com.au/bright-futures/).

*Image (L-R) Bright Futures Queensland forum speakers and panel experts including, Rebekah Kilpatrick, Jodie Barton, Dr Gemma McKibbin, keynote speaker Professor Simon Hackett, Luke Twyford, Denise Morcombe, Bob Atkinson, Nance Haxton, Beth McNamara, Dr Danielle Harris, and Bruce Morcombe.*



- |                             |                        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>AUG 23</b> Darwin        | <b>NOV 16</b> Adelaide |
| <b>AUG 25</b> Alice Springs | <b>NOV 21</b> Hobart   |
| <b>SEP 20</b> Melbourne     | <b>DEC 06</b> Perth    |
| <b>OCT 12</b> Canberra      |                        |

[Register for a workshop!](#)

Follow and listen to the  
**Keeping Kids Safe Podcast**  
[danielmorcombe.com.au/bright-futures/](https://danielmorcombe.com.au/bright-futures/)



## Bright Futures



## Coming up...

**5 September 2023**

Australia's Biggest  
Child Safety Lesson

**27 October 2023**

Walk for Daniel  
Day for Daniel

1300 326 435

[admin@DanielMorcombe.com.au](mailto:admin@DanielMorcombe.com.au)

[DanielMorcombe.com.au](https://DanielMorcombe.com.au)



# That's Suss: eSafety Challenge Launch

*That's Suss: eSafety Challenge is our latest FREE fun, educational, choose-your-own pathway animation to learn about being safe online. Aimed at providing children 8 to 12 years of age the skills they can use to recognise red flags, recognise their body clues and learn how to report online grooming.*

Bruce, Denise, Foundation staff and board member Jon Rouse were joined by Manichan Puurand, Helaine Day, and Michelle Cooper from ACCCE, Darcy Cavanagh, Melissa Golsby-Smith and Zspera Cavanagh from Refocus, Zak Plotkin and Aleister King from Upshot Studios, Sammy Gunner the voice of Morky, Rachel Downie from Stymie, Palmwoods State School Principal Bec Hutton, teachers and over 500 students from the surrounding areas, to launch the resource on 18 July.

The resource, funded by the eSafety Commissioner has been a collaboration with involvement from Refocus to introduce an indigenous perspective, and students from Palmwoods State School participating in focus and evaluation groups making this a resource based on feedback and input from the end user in mind.

Bec Hutton, Principal of Palmwoods State School where the launch was hosted, said "It was an honour to be part of such a significant event. It is important we empower students, staff and parents with the skills, tools, and knowledge to keep our students safe online and protect the wellbeing of the entire community."

That's Suss: eSafety Challenge is now available for parents, carers and educators along with a ready-made lesson on [danielmorcombe.com.au](http://danielmorcombe.com.au)



## Building empathy for victims and families

Forensic Officers deal with people at their most challenging times, and the impact of their work can be life-changing for victims of crime and their families. Bruce and Denise prepared a video for Scenes of Crime Development program graduates, sharing their experience of how the investigation, tenacity, and the result affected them and the role forensic evidence played.



## Future collaborations

Bruce and Denise Morcombe, along with Tracey McAsey, General Manager of the Foundation, met with the Hon. Craig Crawford MP, who serves as both the Minister for Child Safety and the Minister for Seniors and Disability Services. They discussed the Foundation's current work and potential future collaborations.



## Together we can help

In 2021, over 34,000 young people were reported missing in Australia. Most are often found within 24 hours. For those who are not, what follows can be a lifetime of heartbreak for their families.

On International Missing Childrens Day, in collaboration with the Australian Federal Police, we released resources to facilitate the conversation and provide tips for keeping kids safe. View and download the resources [missingpersons.gov.au/about/national-events/international-missing-childrens-day](http://missingpersons.gov.au/about/national-events/international-missing-childrens-day)



# Day for Daniel

Friday  
27 October 2023

Join Australia's largest child safety education and awareness day.

REGISTER NOW  
[danielmorcombe.com.au](http://danielmorcombe.com.au)

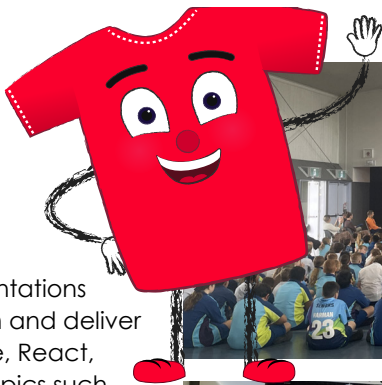
## Keeping Kids Safe: School Visits

So far in 2023, over 5,000 students across Queensland have received Child Safety Presentations from the Foundation. The Child Safety Presentations align with the Australian Curriculum and deliver the key safety message 'Recognise, React, Report.' The presentations cover topics such as how to create a Safety Network, staying safe both online and offline, and the importance of protective behaviours and help-seeking strategies.

Schools visited between May and June 2023 include Unity College Caloundra, Upper Mount Gravatt State School, St Anthony's Primary School, Queen of Apostle Primary School, Baringa State Primary School, Wishart State School, Pumicestone State School, Clover Hill State School, St Augustine's Parish Primary School, and Regents Park State School.

Principal from Upper Mt Gravatt State School, Derek Brady, said **"The presentation was precise, engaging and enjoyable."** Samantha Pullen from Baringa State Primary School said it was **"A great presentation...Our Year 3 to 6 students were appreciative and especially enjoyed the interactive components."**

If you would like a Child Safety Presentation at your school, request the school Principal email [admin@danielmorcombe.com.au](mailto:admin@danielmorcombe.com.au)



## ABCSL 2023: Consent

We've been on set filming Australia's Biggest Child Safety Lesson about consent! Two lessons are being developed for different age groups: early years and junior primary students, and upper primary students. The lessons focus on 'my body, my choice and asking permission', and provide strategies children can use when they need to seek, give or deny consent.

A panel of students from Burnside State School and Ferny Grove State School helped create this year's ABCSL. The lessons were also reviewed by an advisory panel from QUT, the University of South Australia, the Department of Education, and renowned child safety authors Tess Rowley and Jayneen Sanders.

ABCSL will be live streamed to children nation-wide on Tuesday 5 September, during National Child Protection Week. The live stream will start at 9am AEST for early years and junior primary students and at 10am AEST for upper primary students.

You can register for ABCSL 2023 at [danielmorcombe.com.au](https://danielmorcombe.com.au)



Register now!  
for ABCSL



Tuesday 5 September, 2023

## Celebrate NAIDOC

We were honoured to be part of Celebrate NAIDOC, an event by Refocus Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Wellbeing Service. We paid respect to our elders past and present with messages on a special elder tree and kids filled out safety hands that helped deliver the important message of reporting to a safety helper.



## Drive for Daniel

Queensland Travel Industry members held the 9th Drive for Daniel at the Carbrook Golf Course after a 3 year Covid hiatus. The weather was perfect, golfers enjoyed a cooked brekkie, a fun round of golf and finished with a fundraising dinner with lots of fabulous prizes donated by industry members.



## Gold Coast Marathon

Total Property Group took up the challenge to raise \$50,000 for the Foundation and participate in the 5km Fun Run. With a team of almost 100, they were a sea of red raising awareness for child safety. Morky was on hand to cheer participants at the finish line.



## Jon's dedication to child safety

Jon Rouse spent 39 years in law enforcement and was celebrated by the Queensland Police Service for his remarkable dedication and impact on child exploitation detection. We are forever grateful for Jon's commitment to keeping kids safe.



## We got messy

Foundation volunteers Pam and Patrick had a fun day at Messy Play Matters 2023. Over 1,000 children enjoyed a day out to play and create as much mess as possible! It was a great opportunity to learn about child safety in a fun, creative way.



## Locals supporting locals

Our Hearts and Hands Club is delighted to welcome new members, Sunshine Coast Financial Solutions (SCFS), a local family business who believe in investing in Aussie kids' futures. Owners Nikki and Chris visited the DMF team at Daniel House, to learn about the valuable resources and education programs the Foundation produce.



## Donald and Joan Wilson Foundation pays it forward

The Daniel Morcombe Foundation is supported by a number of individuals that through bequests or annual donations help fund our extensive range of free resources.

The late Joan and Donald Wilson's Foundation is a regular donor. They lived by a saying, 'you only live once and it's up to us to try and make the most of it'. They travelled a lot but never spent money on themselves. Instead, they invested wisely. Donald planned to set up a charitable trust since they had no children, but he passed away in 2012 before he could make it happen. After Donald passed away, Joan created The Donald and Joan Wilson Foundation in 2014 to support education for underprivileged children and medical research in Queensland.

Since Joan's passing in 2015, their legacy lives on and they are still supporting underprivileged children and medical research.



# Top 4 Safety tips

## Staying Safe Online

### RECOGNISE

1. People online may use different tactics to trick you and to gain your trust. They may:
  - Pretend to be someone they're not.
  - Offer points or prizes.
  - Try to isolate you from family and friends.

2. Body clues can help you notice that you're in an unsafe situation.

### REACT

3. Check your privacy settings on accounts across all platforms.
  - Never share personal information online.
  - Stop chatting to unknown users and block their profile.

### REPORT

4. Speak to a safety helper if you feel unsure about something. Online grooming can be reported to ACCCE and eSafety.
  - [www.accce.gov.au/report](http://www.accce.gov.au/report)
  - [www.esafety.gov.au/report](http://www.esafety.gov.au/report)

There is nothing embarrassing about being tricked online and it is never too late to ask for help.

You can practice these important skills to stay safe online using That's Suss: eSafety Challenge: [danielmorcombe.com.au/keeping-kids-safe/thats-suss](http://danielmorcombe.com.au/keeping-kids-safe/thats-suss)

