



COMMUNITY NEWS

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Australia celebrates launch of Daniel Morcombe Foundation's 20th year

The Daniel Morcombe Foundation has successfully launched its 20th year, marking an extraordinary two decades of Keeping Kids Safe as one of Australia's largest child safety organisations.

Bruce and Denise Morcombe launched the milestone year with a special celebration at Parliament House, where Prime Minister the Honourable Anthony Albanese announced a \$2 million funding commitment.

"We are proud to be Daniel's parents and quite moved that 20 years after his abduction those tragic events are not forgotten and his important legacy continues to grow," Bruce said.

Bruce and Denise arrived in Canberra during their 21-day, 7500km Time To Talk Road Trip where they educated regional primary school students about personal safety.

"Everything we do is to respectfully honour Daniel and to help keep children safe from harm and abuse," Denise said.

The Federal Government's generous contribution will help develop essential educational resources.

"Your Foundation inspires, it educates, and it helps make Australia a better and a safer place. Above all, your work represents a lasting expression of profound love for your son," Mr Albanese said of the Foundation during Question Time.

Opposition Leader The Honourable Peter Dutton said the Foundation's important work helped keep children safe from threats online, such as grooming.

"From the way that they have dedicated themselves since then - going to schools, doing online talks, engaging with other NGOs - there are countless lives of young Australian children that they've saved. And that's something that we should acknowledge today," Mr Dutton said.

Milestone events during the next 12 months include: the 20th Day and Walk for Daniel, the 20th Dance for Daniel and a lunch for Daniel - celebrating the Foundation's 20th birthday in May, 2025.



Coming up...

3 September 2024

Australia's Biggest
Child Safety Lesson

7 September 2024

The Red Ball charity
event, Gold Coast

25 October 2024

Walk for Daniel
Day for Daniel



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Road Trip spreads child safety messages to rural Australia

More than 1600 regional and rural primary school students learned how to recognise, react, report during the 21-day Time To Talk Road Trip.



Bruce and Denise Morcombe travelled 7,500km in less than a month while visiting schools and Daniel Morcombe Foundation supporters in Queensland, New South Wales, the Australian Capital Territory and South Australia.

It comes at an important time with the Daniel Morcombe Foundation celebrating its 20th year since its launch in Palmwoods in May, 2005.

Beginning on Monday 16 June, the Time To Talk Road Trip was about reducing instances of child sexual abuse, and building momentum in support of this year's 20th Day for Daniel.

Denise Morcombe said, "it is really important to us that all children are educated about their personal safety".

"Our aim is to educate them all on how to recognise unsafe situations, how to react in these situations and very importantly to encourage them to report these to their safety team."

During the road trip Bruce and Denise visited schools in Gladstone, Rockhampton, Winton, Port Pirie and Cobar.

Bruce Morcombe said, "together we can reduce child sexual abuse, one talk at a time".

Promising child safety discussions

Constructive discussions were held with Australian Police Commissioner Reece Kershaw during a meeting in Canberra with Bruce and Denise Morcombe and General Manager Tracey McAsey.

Challenges around the rise in online risks facing children and teenagers, such as sextortion and online grooming were discussed, as well as new child safety initiatives.

Bruce and Denise also visited the National Missing Persons Command Centre where they learned how new technology is helping identify missing people.

The Foundation is pleased to support the Australian Federal Police in its efforts to protect children.



(Top) Bruce and Denise Morcombe and Tracey McAsey pictured with AFP Commissioner Reece Kershaw, Assistant Commissioner Kirsty Schofield and AFP Commander Helen Schneider.

(Bottom) Inside the National Missing Persons Command Centre's lab facility.



New resources in national campaign

Bruce and Denise Morcombe and the Daniel Morcombe Foundation partnered with the National Office for Child Safety on a suite of resources as part of the Australian Government's One Talk at a Time campaign.

The resources have age-appropriate activities for children and young people to create a 'safety team' that consists of trusted adults both inside and outside of their home.

Bruce Morcombe says that while the topic can be confronting, talking about child sexual abuse is an important part of prevention.

"All adults have a role to play in keeping children and young people safe. There are lots of ways to educate and empower them about safety," Bruce says.



Save the Date! Friday 25th October, 2024

Join us to celebrate our 20th Day for Daniel. Register your school, ELC or workplace today!
DanielMorcombe.com.au

Bright Futures educating frontline professionals

Demand is high for education for frontline professionals on harmful sexual behaviours, with some Bright Futures events selling out and hundreds of people joining us for webinars.

Now in its second year, Bright Futures educates frontline professionals on how to respond to harmful sexual behaviours, including technology-assisted harmful sexual behaviours, and child sexual exploitation in children and pre-teens.

Forums and workshops have been held on the Sunshine Coast and Cairns, with more to come in Tasmania, South Australia, the Northern Territory, Western Australia, and the Australian Capital Territory.

The Daniel Morcombe Foundation has partnered with Porn is Not the Norm to deliver workshops in Queensland, South Australia and Tasmania.



Maree Crabbe and Dr Wenn Lawson are presenting Porn is Not the Norm: Young people, neurodivergence and the impacts of porn, bringing their expert knowledge and advice on this challenging topic.

One recent Bright Futures event attendee said "there was an amazing mix of professionals. I personally believe it was up there with one on my best trainings in a very long time".

Podcasts are also being released fortnightly and webinars are attracting plenty of interest.

The fourth webinar features Durham University Professor Carlene Firmin who will introduce the idea of Contextual Safeguarding.

Visit the Daniel Morcombe Foundation website to register for the free webinars, workshops and forums, and see the Bright Futures Communities of Practice to stay up to date <https://bright-futures.com.au/>

Webinar 4

SA Events

TAS Events

NT Events

Upcoming Events:

feat. Prof Carlene Firmin
Wed 31 July

Forum: Mon 22 July
Workshop: Tues 23 July

Workshop: Thurs 25 July

Forum: Wed 14 August

Study finds promising value in webinars, workshops

A recently published paper found that a study identified there was promising value in workshops and webinars being used for upskilling frontline professionals.

The Daniel Morcombe Foundation co-published the article with Dr Lara Christensen, Associate Professor Nadine McKillop, Stephanie Price and Dr Susan Rayment-McHugh from the University of the Sunshine Coast's Sexual Violence Research Prevention Unit and Isabel Hull from the University of Queensland.

It found that growing concerns about harmful sexual behaviour experienced and exhibited by children resulted in a demand for training programs for frontline workers.

The study evaluated workshops and webinars and found that overall professionals' perceived knowledge, confidence, competence, and actual knowledge improved. It also found that participation had lasting impacts on practice even 12 months after.

That's a wrap for ABCSL filming

Filming has finished for Australia's Biggest Child Safety Lesson 2024 which is all about enthusiastic consent.

Two lessons are being developed for different age groups: early years and lower primary students, and upper primary students.

A talented group of young actors helped bring our scripts to life during recent filming with Trending Media for the upper primary student lesson. Meanwhile, Upshot Studios is developing animations for the early years and lower primary lesson.

The lessons focus on the difference between consent and enthusiastic consent, and how boundaries can be blurred or crossed.

ABCSL will be live streamed to children nation-wide on Tuesday 3 September, during National Child Protection Week.

The live stream will start at 9am AEST for early years and lower primary students and at 10am AEST for upper primary students. You can register for ABCSL 2024 at danielmorcombe.com.au



10th Drive for Daniel tees off

Happy golfers helped raise \$15000 for the Daniel Morcombe Foundation at the 10th Drive for Daniel.

More than 150 people joined us to tee off another fantastic fundraiser at Carbrook Golf Course. Queensland Travel Industry Members enjoyed a cooked breakfast, a fun round of golf and a fundraising dinner with prizes donated by industry members.



Friendly faces at Daniel House

Daniel House at Palmwoods has been busy with plenty of Foundation supporters visiting the office.

Day for Daniel champion from Perth Zara Butt dropped into Daniel House while on holiday with her family.

She has supported Day for Daniel since 2013.

We were delighted to also catch up with police officer Sean Follows and school teacher Jen Follows from Western Australia. Sean became involved with the Foundation in 2015 to help encourage schools to register for Day for Daniel.

He regularly volunteers to do the heavy lifting and hard work at Walk for Daniel and continues to promote our events to encourage participation in his home state of Western Australia.



Cyber safety in the classroom

Primary school teacher Catherine from Tasmania has enjoyed using the Daniel Morcombe Foundation's Boomer Challenge as a class activity to help teach cyber safety.

"All the kids from grades 3-6 have LOVED it - it has been our favourite activity so far this year. We screen it up so the whole class can see and have lots of discussions before making our choice on what Millsy should do next."

The Daniel Morcombe Foundation's Keeping Kids Safe resources have educational games and tools suitable for the classroom or the home! Visit DanielMorcombe.com.au for more.



While you're talking with your children about online safety, check to make sure they have the right privacy settings in place.

Conduct a privacy check-up on Facebook by following these steps:

1. Click on settings and privacy and privacy shortcuts.
2. Take a privacy check-up.
3. Select 'who can see what you share'.
4. Ensure information is shared to either 'friends' or 'only me'.

Visit the Keeping Kids Safe resources for more information about staying safe online.

OUT AND ABOUT!

Marvelous Marathon



Thanks to the fantastic team at Total Property Group for choosing to support the Daniel Morcombe Foundation again at this year's Gold Coast Marathon. Team work at its finest!

Messy Play



Daniel Morcombe Foundation volunteers offered educational activities and games at the popular Messy Play Matters event held on the Sunshine Coast in May.