

Visits, Child & Parent Days and Family Centres

Support for children and families
visiting a Correctional Centre

Building futures
so kids can *shine*

Who we are

We are passionate about transforming the lives of children and young people affected by the criminal justice system.

What we do

We provide services and programs to support children and young people who have had contact with the justice system, from infancy to adulthood.

Where we are

We are a national charity and operate in NSW, VIC, ACT and QLD. Email us at enquiries@shineforkids.org.au

Shine for Kids recognises the Traditional Custodians of Australia and the local Aboriginal communities where we provide services.



Find out more at shineforkids.org.au



SHINE for Kids®

Supported Visits

Visiting a prison can be daunting. Our trained staff help families arrange visits, navigate the system, and ensure time spent with a parent in custody is positive and child friendly.

Age-appropriate activities and toys keep children engaged during the visit, and our team offer information, practical support, and referrals to carers.

In some circumstances, trained staff can supervise children to visit with their parent in custody without their regular caregiver needing to be present.

Child & Parent Days

Child & Parents Days provide children with quality time bonding with their parent in custody without their caregiver needing to be present. SHINE for Kids staff supervise children and facilitate a positive and child-focused experience. Longer and more relaxed than regular visits, these days are held throughout the year during school holidays.

A range of age-appropriate activities for young children through to teenagers and a meal to share together provide opportunities for connection.

Drop-In Family Centres

Our Family Centers are located at or near Correctional Centers (usually in the car park or close to the entrance to the Correctional Centre grounds) and provide a welcoming, calm space for families to drop in and say hi before or after visiting their loved one.

Carers can have a cup of tea, relax after a long drive, change a nappy, and get information about support available to them while their children can play with activities and toys provided.



Why are these programs needed?

By providing information, support and child-friendly spaces, these programs ensure children can maintain or build a strong relationship with their parent in custody, increasing wellbeing and decreasing feelings of isolation. Strong family connections can also help to reduce recidivism and promote better outcomes for children.



Who is eligible?

All families with children visiting a Correctional Centre. Visit www.shineforkids.org.au to find the current locations of our drop-in Family Centres, Visits and Child & Parent Days programs.



How do I find out more?

Please email us at enquiries@shineforkids.org.au to find out how we can support your family. Parents in custody can contact their local SHINE for Kids staff member or Programs Officer to express interest in Child & Parent Days and support arranging a visit.

SHINE for Kids programs vary at each location and are not available at every Correctional Centre.

