



**CHILD FRIENDLY PENRITH
WHAT IS IT?**

2012

**PENRITH
CITY COUNCIL**
Serving Our Community

INTRODUCTION

Across the world city leaders are looking at what it means to be a Child Friendly City. We asked adults what they wanted Penrith to be like as a city and they said five main things.

They wanted Penrith to:

- encourage people to be leaders (LEADERSHIP)
- have opportunities to be the best they could be (OPPORTUNITIES)
- be a clean, green city (GREEN)
- be a safe place that is easy to get around (LIVEABLE)
- have places where people can enjoy themselves (VIBRANT)

We took these five things and asked kids what they thought Penrith Council should do and this is what they said.



PENRITH AS A LEADING CITY

We asked what would make Penrith a great place for kids.

They told us:

More kid friendly parks, more shade, more paths to ride bikes and scooters, more children's crossing, less graffiti and broken glass.





What we want to do

We ask kids what they think when we make important decisions about their city.

We listen to kid's thoughts and ideas.

We talk to other people who work with kids like schools and children's centres.



PENRITH AS A CITY OF OPPORTUNITY

We asked kids what they think are important places of opportunity in Penrith.

They said libraries, children's centres and schools were important places to learn, they liked to go there and thought all children should be able to go. They like to go outside their front yard when there are trusted adults around and it is safe because there are footpaths to walk on, especially walking to school and playgrounds.

What we want to do

We support kids to find places to get help, have an education and have a healthy life.

We help kids to have a say in what they want in their city.





'I took this photo because I come here and people go to. It is important to children to go to preschool and learn things'
- Isabella age 4

We asked children why they liked their neighbourhood. They said:

" it's a free space, there is nice neighbours, if we need help our guardians will help us" Grade 5 child, St Clair

"because it has lots of parks and there's lots of places you can ride your scooters and bikes, without getting in the cars way" Grade 5 child, St Clair

"I like the feeling that I am safe because everybody knows me in my neighbourhood" Grade 5 Child, Londonderry



"I like to borrow books and DVD's from here (the library) and they make toys there"
- Elise 4

PENRITH AS A GREEN CITY

'Nepean River I took photos of the River because its got rides and lots of bike riding places. I can ride my bike and go on rides. Other people can go there too, so they don't get bored every day. I love the lakes and rivers it's got slides and we get to the park with Daddy and there is lots of beautiful trees.'
- Isabella aged 4



We asked kids what natural places they liked to play in.

They told us they like to play near the Nepean River and Werrington Lakes, they like clean parks with plenty of space to run around and fun equipment like Tench Reserve. They don't like equipment that is broken, places where there is no shade, or where teenagers hang out and smoke.

What we want to do

Kids can find natural spaces to play and be active.

Kids can move around their neighbourhood safely by themselves.



'I wanted to take this photo
of this footpath because
it's straight and people can
walk over it'
'Safely?'
'Yes'
- Morrison aged 5



PENRITH AS A LIVEABLE CITY

We asked kids where they like to be active and safe.

Kids told us that they like parks and would like to see more parks and open spaces, and paths to get to parks and play spaces. Kids also said they liked places near water like the river and lakes and swimming pools. Lots of kids said they didn't feel safe where there were no people or safe paths to go on.

We asked kids when they felt safe:

'Because I almost know all the people in my neighbourhood' - Grade 4-5 child Londonderry

'Everything, the police investigate very good, the fireys put out the fires and we can't forget the ambo's who save lives' - Grade 4-5 child Londonderry

'I feel safe with my parents, family and friends. That there is a lot of people there to see if something is wrong' - Grade 4-5 child St Clair

What we want to do

Penrith is a place where kids can have a healthy and active life. Penrith City Centre and its neighbourhoods are safe places for kids with adults they can trust.



"This is a place where I do tumbling and I love it"
- Elise aged 4



"I go to the pool with Mummy and Daddy. I like the park at the pool"
- Alana aged 5

PENRITH AS A VIBRANT CITY

We asked kids what they like to do when they are out and about.

What kids told us

They like to go to places where they can meet friends or family with spaces to ride and play. Most kids like their neighbourhood and think they have friendly people there but would like more natural active and clean places to go to, close to home.

What we want to do

Kids have places in Penrith where they feel they are welcome and feel like they belong there.

Kids can find places in their neighbourhood where they can use their imagination and explore and play.





*'I like feeding the ducks at
Werrington Lakes'
- Harrison aged 5*



THANK YOU

A big thank you to all of the children and teachers who contributed their ideas and comments in the development of this document. A special thanks go to the staff and children from Penrith Council's Childrens Centres including: Ayden, Jackson, Isabella, Alexis, Morrison, Elise, Teacher Nadia, Ryan, Brodie, Hayley, Caydi, Kolby, Teacher Robyn, Ryan, Cassidy, Ellie, Alana, Harrison, Teacher Pam, Ben, Teacher Crystal. Also Thanks to the staff and children from the following schools and vacation care centres: Clairgate Primary, Londonderry Primary, Kingswood Park Primary, Oxley Park Primary, Kindana Vacation Care and Tandara Vacation Care.

**PENRITH
CITY COUNCIL**
Serving Our Community

Penrith City Council
Community and Cultural
Development

Ph. (02) 4732 7838
www.penrithcity.nsw.gov.au