

# **National Child Voice Community of Practice**

## **Expression of Interest invitation**

### **What is the National Child Voice Community of Practice?**

The Child Voice Community of Practice (CoP) will be a group of professionals, academics and lived experience representatives seeking to expand members capacities to use a variety of safe enough and effective methodologies to hear and act on children's voices, aged 0-18 years. This will be done by sharing knowledge, skills and reflections based on experiences of using a variety of approaches. The focus will be on methodologies and approaches, rather than any specific lived experience.

Expected outcomes include an increased capacity across variety of sectors including community, health and social services organisations and systems to be informed by the voices and experiences of children, in ways that are meaningful, amplify the voices of children, cultivate hope, give them influence, and promote the wellbeing of the children involved.

The CoP will be a supportive, collective and emergent process. Over time we may work together to identify our guiding values and principles, including a rights-based approach.

Emerging Minds will undertake the secretariat function of the CoP, and be guided by best practice in its establishment, facilitation and monitoring.

Please note that the CoP will not have an advocacy function, and at this stage there are no funds to be able to reimburse any members for attending.

### **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander connections**

We warmly welcome Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to connect with us, but we do not assume that the CoP will necessarily be relevant or useful.

We will aim for a 30% weighting towards Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children's voices.

We will incorporate standing reflective agenda items to help us examine the impact of colonial invasion and how it continues to be reflected in structures, systems, and practices. We strive to work with integrity, prioritising and being guided by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children's voices.

## **The practicalities**

The CoP will meet approximately every 6 weeks for 1.5 hours (at WA-friendly timeslots) beginning on Monday 1 July 2024 at:

- 9:30am WA
- 11:00am Central
- 11:30am Eastern

At each meeting we will either:

- hear from a stakeholder on their experience of learnings on child voice work, or
- focus on a specific topic area such as infant voice, for example

The first hour of our meetings will focus on the topic or presentation and Q&A.

In the last 30 minutes we will make time for collective leadership of the CoP, including reflections, iterative improvement, emergent ideas and activities, and future topic selection.

## **To register your interest**

Please email Lydia Trowse at [trowse@emergingminds.com.au](mailto:trowse@emergingminds.com.au).