

# **About Meli**

Meli is a not-for-profit community service organisation, committed to supporting people and strengthening communities.

We offer a range of support and education services to people living in the Barwon and western regions of Victoria, from childhood through to adolescence and adulthood.

With kindergartens throughout Geelong, the Bellarine Peninsula and Colac, we're one of the largest early childhood education providers in the region.

We believe in social justice, equality, and working together to help wherever we can.

Our commitment is to provide you with high quality services, by professional staff who care and are dedicated to supporting you.

We will listen to you and ensure you have choice and control over the decisions that impact your life.

### How to contact us

We provide support in offices located in Barwon and western Victoria.

**Community Support** 

- General enquiries: 03 5226 8900
- ✓ info@meli.org.au

Meli Kindergartens

- **C** General enquiries: 03 5273 0200
- 🖪 kindergartens@meli.org.au

#### @meli.community

- (O) @meli.community
- in @meli-community

#### Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we work and connect on the traditional and unceded lands of Aboriginal peoples and pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We are committed to the reconciliation journey through our actions and openness to learn.



#### We celebrate difference

Meli is committed to creating an environment where everyone feels safe and that they belong. We welcome people of all races, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations, ages, religions, abilities, and nationalities and value diversity of experience as a vital part of supporting people and strengthening communities. We will listen, learn and evolve as an accessible, inclusive, and safe organisation for all, including First Nations peoples, members of the LGBTQIA+ community, people with disability and those with culturally diverse backgrounds.

Interpreter services are available upon request.

#### meli.org.au

# Meli

# **Connect Up**

A local support service to help families give their children the best start in life



# **Connect Up**

The Connect Up program places Family Services workers within local communities to ensure families and children are given the support they need to thrive.

In partnership with local schools, kindergartens and the community, Connect Up helps develop confident parents and/or caregivers of children zero to 12 years old. Our range of services are co-located at various sites and include:

- Brief and short term family support Providing parents/caregivers with individual support to help them build their skills to better manage parenting challenges.
- Linking and referrals

Supporting families to navigate and access the service system e.g. kindergarten to prep transition, health referrals and other support services.

#### Supported playgroups

Providing an opportunity for parents/caregivers with preschool aged children to interact with one another in an inclusive, safe environment.

- Parenting education and engagement groups
   Facilitating the interaction of parents/caregivers
   within their local community to discuss topics of
   interest and facilitate group work programs.
- Secondary consultation
   Provided to education and wellbeing staff to best
   meet individual family needs.

### **Our locations**

Connect Up workers provide services across the following sites:

### **Northern Bay College**

Hendy P-8 Campus 38 Hendy Street, Corio

Peacock P-8 Campus 31/33 Peacock Avenue, Norlane

Tallis P-8 Campus57 Tallis Street, Norlane

Wexford P - 8 Campus/Korayn Birralee\* 146 Purnell Road, Corio

Northern Bay Family Centre\* 3 - 25 Goldsworthy Road, Corio

\*Early Help Program

### **Primary Schools**

Geelong East Primary School 184 Boundary Road, Geelong

Bell Park North Primary School 16-26 Barton Street, Bell Park

Wangala Primary School 45a Kidman Avenue, Belmont

Grovedale Primary School 143 Bailey Street, Grovedale

#### Meli Kindergartens

William Hovell Kindergarten 28 Hendy Street, Corio

Kirralee Kindergarten 53 Richard Street, Newcomb

# **Connect with us**

Meli Connect Up Team Leader **1** 03 5278 8122 **1** 0488 876 013

In person at co-located services (listed left)

Barwon Orange Door **1** 1800 312 820

