

# Child Friendly CB City Report Summary:

Child Friendly Language 2019



The cover was designed by Molly. This is her depiction of her child-friendly city:

"My child-friendly city has a park with a pat-a-pet. And so children don't get hurt by cars there is a bridge over all of the roads connecting all of the parks together. Across the road from the pat-a-pet is a play place and a café – the café will sell things that children can eat and drink, for example it won't sell coffee.

There are safe houses – all balconies are strong with high fences so children don't fall over. If you go to a shop there is a limit on the amount of lollies children can have – a maximum of five lollies each.

For every pool, you need to get a special app on a grownup's phone with an image, so you can open the gate to the pool. The rollercoaster has magnetic wheels. It doesn't go as fast as other rollercoasters, so children don't get scared. The magnetic wheels can't fall off the tracks.

I want everything in my city to be safe and fun at the same time. There is a no dog policy in the play place so no children get bitten."

- Molly, age 8

CB City wants to be a Child-Friendly City. That means a city that looks after children's rights. Written into the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, or UN CRC. They include things like:

- the right to be healthy
- the right to be safe
- the right to education
- the right to be listened to and taken seriously by adults
- the right to play
- the right to be treated well, and to not be discriminated against (this means no one treats you unfairly because of your age, your culture, your gender, your sexuality, your religion, your abilities, or your social situation)

We spoke to 167 children and young people across the CBCity in focus groups, and heard from another 89 through online surveys to see what they think needs to be done to make CB City better and to make sure their rights are looked after. We talked to people about six different categories, including health, safety, education, participation, play and leisure, and belonging.

This booklet is a summary of what children and young people said. If you would like more information, you can look at the full Child Friendly CBCity Report.

# Health

Children and young people think health is...

### **Support networks**

Taking medicine if you need it

### **Building resilience**

Spirituality

Healthy environment

Healthy food

### **Keeping active**

Having a home

Playing

### Safe spaces

Motivation

Brushing your teeth

Water

Milk

### **Doctors**

Shade

Self esteem

Education

**Dentists** 

### **Good mental space**





- Most children and young people are healthy in CBCity, but we need to make sure all children and young people can eat well, can exercise and play, get help when they need it, and have somewhere safe to sleep
- Mental health is a big issue, and a very important part of being healthy

- More free sports programs
- Better access to healthy foods
- More mental health support for children and young people
- More help for children and young people who are or might become homeless
- A cleaner environment

# Safety

Children and young people think safety is...

Friends
Have a home
Teachers
Parents
Not harming others
Feeling in control
Having a plan
Police

Ambulance Following rules Thinking Twice

**Protection**Seat belts

Fire Trucks

**Trusted adults** 

Fences
Supervision
Respecting boundaries
Helmets









- Most children and young people feel safe in CBCity if they are with people they trust
- Abuse and bullying are never ok
- Everyone should feel safe and protected

- Safer crossings (especially near parks, schools and main roads)
- More programs to prevent bullying
- More support for children and young people who have been abused
- More information about where they can go to if they need help
- CBCity as a place where they feel safe walking or riding their bike by themselves

### Education

Children and young people think education is...

Reading **Encouragement Friends Motivating** Sport Games Culture No judgement **Supportive teachers** Interesting A safe place Creative Languages Art Listening Music **Working together** Sharing opinions **Patience** 









- Education is very important, and all children and young people should get the same opportunities
- It is important to feel safe at school to be able to learn
- Having teachers who listen to you and understand you makes a big difference

- Better mental health support in schools
- More opportunities to have their say in school decisions
- More opportunities to have their say about what they learn and how they learn it
- More help to plan for their lives after school
- More opportunities through school to learn how to be a leader and to help other people by volunteering

# Participation

Children and young people think participation is...

Being part of the community
Volunteering
Respect
Being valued
Support
Helping others
Access
Being Heard
Take us seriuosly
Decision making
Knowing our rights









- Children and young people usually don't feel adults listen to them or take them seriously
- Children and young people want to be asked their opinion, and to help make decisions that affect them
- All children and young people should be taught their rights under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- All children and young people should be able to get help and support when they need it

- More opportunities to have their voices heard in CBCity about issues that are important to them
- More opportunities to help their community (such as volunteering)
- More support for children and young people whose families can't afford things
- More support for children and young people with disabilities so they can do the same things as anyone else in CBCity, such as going to the park

# Play and Leisure

Children and young people think play and leisure is...

Riding bikes Gardening

**Pools** 

Running

**Libraries** 

Music

Skating

**Sport** 

**Parks** 

Youth centres

Reading

**Nature** 

**Time with friends** 

Gaming

Toys

History

Art

River









- It is important for all children and young people to have time to play and relax, and spaces to do that in
- Sport is an important activity to keep healthy and spend time with friends

- More green spaces and playgrounds
- Enough sports programs for all children and young people to participate
- More play areas in pools
- More free art programs (such as art, music, dancing)
- Extended drop-in hours and more outreach services for young people

# Belonging

Children and young people think belonging is...

No discrimination
Coming together
Respect
Inclusion
Support
No racism
Community
Acceptance
Friends
Pride
Family









- Having places where you feel like you belong, and being with people you feel like you belong with is very important
- No children or young people should experience discrimination

- More events and festivals that celebrate all the differences in CBCity and help people to learn from each other
- More people in CBCity learning about important issues (such as racism, bullying, disability, and domestic and family violence)
- More competitions and events that bring together children and young people from different schools and different areas
- A bigger focus on all the good things that happen in CBCity that people can feel proud of
- More celebrations of the different achievements of children and young people in CBCity



