

TOP TIPS

For respecting Children and Young People's Diversity



The FJYPB have devised top tips for respecting diversity and effectively including children and young people within family justice.

1

- Be sensitive to my background, to my family's background and consider the impact of this upon me.

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- Be considerate of religious festivals and days when arranging meetings with me or other children and young people.

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- Ask me, get to know me and speak to me not through me.

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- All people working in family justice should receive training in understanding diversity.

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- My age, disability, gender, race, religion, beliefs and sexual orientation should not prejudice the decision making.

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- Be able to identify and respond to my specific and diverse needs.

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- Write interesting things about me such as my hobbies and favourite music.

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- Ask me to draw or describe myself to understand how I identify myself.

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- Communicate with me in a way I can understand you. Use tools and resources to help. Check out that I can understand you.

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- Be patient with me. Give me enough time to understand and express my view.

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- Be aware of language barriers. I may have different interpretations of different words. Double check that you and I both understand what is being said.

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- Don't allow your personal judgements to impact on what you think of me.

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- Do not underestimate me because of my age.

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- Get to know me. I am me – I am unique.

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- Don't expect me to be comfortable the first time we meet.

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- Be mindful of my mental or physical health.