

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.
- 2 • Be considerate of religious festivals and days when arranging meetings with me or other children and young people.
- 3 • Ask me, get to know me and speak to me not through me.
- 4 • All people working in family justice should receive training in understanding diversity.
- 5 • My age, disability, gender, race, religion, beliefs and sexual orientation should not prejudice the decision making.
- 6 • Be able to identify and respond to my specific and diverse needs.
- 7 • Write interesting things about me such as my hobbies and favourite music.
- 8 • Ask me to draw or describe myself to understand how I identify myself.
- 9 • Communicate with me in a way I can understand you. Use tools and resources to help. Check out that I can understand you.
- 10 • Be patient with me. Give me enough time to understand and express my view.
- 11 • 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.
- 12 • Don't allow your personal judgements to impact on what you think of me.
- 13 • Do not underestimate me because of my age.
- 14 • Get to know me. I am me – I am unique.
- 15 • Don't expect me to be comfortable the first time we meet.
- 16 • Be mindful of my mental or physical health.