



KIMBERLEY JUVENILE JUSTICE STRATEGY

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KJJS Staff Update!

KJJS is excited to welcome two new team members whose expertise will strengthen our work across the region.

Rona Ugle joins us as a Principal Policy Officer with nearly two decades of experience across multiple government portfolios.

We also welcome Everett Kickett, who returns to KJJS as a Project Assistant following the successful completion of his departmental traineeship.

Both Rona and Everett are based in Perth and look forward to upcoming visits to the Kimberley.



KALACC - Two-way Science

Two-Way Science blends Western and Indigenous knowledge within the Australian curriculum, promoting Indigenous leadership in education and giving students the opportunity to learn science through the perspectives of the world's oldest continuing cultures.

Each week, KALACC's Yiriman staff transport and mentor participants to attend on-Country learning experiences led by Elders in partnership with Fitzroy Valley District High School. The strong collaboration between organisations across the valley is helping previously disengaged students reconnect with education by providing culturally grounded, meaningful learning opportunities.





KWAC - Engagement On Country



Further north, KWAC's Learning on Dawang program has built on the strong momentum of 2025, launching into Term One 2026 with impressive success. Co-designed by local leaders, the program prioritises cultural knowledge and delivers regular on-Country learning experiences that resonate deeply with participants. In Term Four last year, several young people who had previously recorded very low school attendance achieved an outstanding 90% attendance rate through the program—clear evidence of the effectiveness of this culturally responsive approach to youth engagement.

HOLIDAY PROGRAMS - A LOOK BACK

Fitzroy Crossing Youth Connection

In Fitzroy Crossing, the Youth Connection Night Patrol and Night Space continued operating seven nights a week over the December/January holiday period. Their dedication culminated in a Christmas Day celebration attended by 66 young people, each of whom received a gift and shared in a festive meal.

We recognise that many organisations continue to go above and beyond to support the young people of their communities, including at times of increased risk and vulnerability.



Broome youth and families hub



In Broome, Broome Youth and Families Hub ran a vibrant schedule of activities that brought young people together in a calm, supportive outdoor setting while helping them develop new skills. Fishing trips were a highlight, with culturally knowledgeable staff teaching participants how to collect cockles and other shellfish before fishing for salmon on the incoming tide. Young people also enthusiastically took part in laser tag, basketball competitions, movie nights, swimming, beach and BBQ days, and an end-of-year disco. We look forward to seeing what more adventures are in store for young people of the Kimberley in the upcoming holidays!



ABORIGINAL LEGAL SERVICES YOUTH ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM - CULTURAL DAYS AND CONTINUED GROWTH

Aboriginal Legal Service WA's Youth Engagement Program (YEP) celebrated many success stories in 2025 and continues to expand its impact across the East and West Kimberley.

In addition to the day-to-day supports provided to clients, YEP delivers cultural days designed to strengthen relationships, share knowledge, and promote wellbeing through enjoyable, culturally grounded activities.

One recent cultural day saw young people take part in Barramundi fishing outside Derby, with several barra caught and shared with families.



YOUTH VOICE IN PROGRAM DESIGN

Development towards the establishment of Jungarni Jutiya Indigenous Corporation's night space in Halls Creek continues, with young people who access the night patrol recently sharing their hopes and vision for the project through a questionnaire. They provided feedback on the kinds of rules that would help the space operate smoothly, along with the activities they would like to see offered. As with many initiatives across the Kimberley, it's inspiring to see such a strong commitment to elevating youth voice and ensuring young people play an active, meaningful role in co-designing the programs that affect them.



KJJS STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

There have been

2

KJJS Stakeholder Meetings this year.



Upcoming KJJS Travel

EAST KIMBERLEY

12 - 14 MARCH

WEST KIMBERLEY

21 - 23 APRIL (TBC)

For further information about the KJJS or to be featured in the next newsletter contact KJJS@justice.wa.gov.au.