



About the Multi-Agency Investigation and Support Team

The main role of the Multi-Agency Investigation and Support Team (MIST) is to provide an assessment and interview service for children who may have been sexually or physically abused in Western Australia. This can also involve children who have witnessed abuse.

MIST is a joint initiative provided by the Western Australia Police Force (WA Police) and Parkerville Children and Youth Care, who work together in the best interests of children and their families.

Contact Us

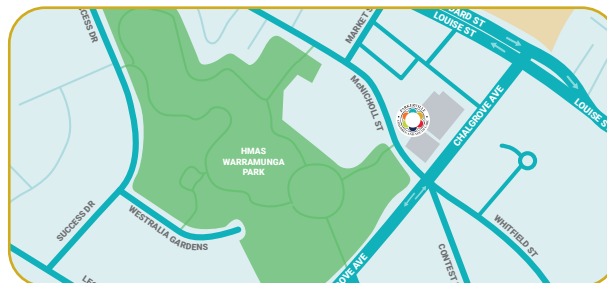
 (08) 9235 7051

 Rockingham Child, Youth and Family Centre
2/35 McNicholl Street, Rockingham, 6168

Location, Public Transport and Parking

The Rockingham Child, Youth and Family Centre is located on the corner of Chalgrove Avenue and McNicholl Street in Rockingham.

The Centre is a 2 minute walk from the nearest bus stop, with a bus route from Rockingham Station. Free street parking is available.



Your Key Contacts

Parkerville Advocate:

Investigating Officer:



ABN 86 437 092 401

MIST

Multi-Agency Investigation
and Support Team

Your Child's Interview

The purpose of your child's interview is to electronically record any disclosures of abuse. This can be used by WA Police to determine what charges, if any, may be laid against the alleged perpetrator. The recording may be played in Court if charges are laid.

Your child will speak with a specialist child interviewer. The interview will take the form of a normal child-friendly conversation, using age-appropriate language and taking into consideration any developmental needs.

Parents are not in the room during the interview to ensure an environment is provided to allow a child to talk freely. You will meet with the interviewer or investigating officer afterwards to discuss what happens next.



Family Support

It can be a stressful time for a family when your child attends MIST for an interview, as such you will be supported throughout the process by a Child and Family Advocate. They are experienced, qualified and independent people that can support you and your family with compassion, care and understanding.

Your Child and Family Advocate will:

- Support and guide you and your family during the interview process and after
- Answer questions you have about who may become involved with your family or what happens next
- Provide information about how incidents of abuse can affect children and their behaviour
- Share strategies and techniques to help your child in their recovery
- Support you to identify any other concerns or needs for your family

Medical Needs

A medical or forensic examination may be considered to determine if physical injuries can be identified, to gather forensic evidence and to provide for the overall safety and wellbeing of your child.

Perth Children's Hospital Child Protection Unit (CPU) and the Sexual Assault Resource Centre (SARC) are the services primarily set up for this.

Most children do not require this type of examination. Concerns or worries related to their health can also be dealt with by your GP.

Additional Information



What happens if charges are laid

If charges are laid against the accused person Criminal Court proceedings will begin. If the case progresses to the District Court, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) becomes involved and the Child Witness Service will support your child through giving evidence.

If the accused person enters a plea of "guilty" they will be sentenced without the need for your child to give further evidence in Court.

The Investigating Officer and Child Witness Service will keep you informed and can be contacted at any time to discuss these matters.

Privacy and Confidentiality

At MIST we take your privacy and confidentiality seriously. We share relevant information with the MIST team to best meet the needs of you and your family. For further information please talk to your Child and Family Advocate or the Investigating Officer.

Funding

The Parkerville Children and Youth Care's Multi-Agency Investigation and Support Team (MIST) is funded by a joint funding partnership between Parkerville, Telethon and the Perron Foundation.

