

About the Youth Koori Court

The Youth Koori Court process operates within the Children's Court for young Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders who have pled guilty or who have been found by the Children's Court to have committed a criminal offence and who choose to be part of the Youth Koori Court.

The Youth Koori Court has the same powers as the Children's Court but involves the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community in the court process. The Youth Koori Court aims to:

- make it easier for young people to come to court and have a say in the court process
- connect young people to services to help them stay out of trouble
- help young people to connect to their family, their community, and their culture and
- provide a culturally safe and respectful environment for all participants in the court process.

The role of a Youth Koori Court Casework Coordinator

The Youth Koori Court Casework Coordinator plays an important role in the Youth Koori Court process.

The main purpose of the Casework Coordinator is to:

- help young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people actively participate in the Youth Koori Court process, and
- coordinate and oversee the delivery of support services and other agencies identified in the young person's Action and Support Plan.

Responsibilities of a Youth Koori Court Casework Coordinator

The Youth Koori Court Casework Coordinator is responsible for:

- ensuring that a screening assessment to assess a young person's suitability for the Youth Koori Court is undertaken.
- seeking the assistance of Youth Justice or a community based organisation to complete the screening assessment where the young person already has links with that organisation
- developing and maintaining a network of appropriate Youth Koori Court service providers that can best meet the needs of Youth Koori Court participants
- helping connect Youth Koori Court participants to services relevant to their needs
- overseeing the implementation of the young person's Action and Support Plan including reporting back to court
- working closely with the Children's Court, NSW Police, Juvenile Justice, legal professionals, a range of government and nongovernment organisations and Aboriginal community controlled organisations
- advising the Court of any perceived barriers with service delivery and
- providing Youth Koori Court participants and their families with practical and cultural support to address any barriers to the young person participating in and completing the Youth Koori Court program.

For further information please contact:

Kylie Merritt,

Youth Koori Court Casework Coordinator kylie.merritt@justice.nsw.gov.au

Phone: 8688 1571