



# Youth Custodial Rule 102

## Youth Custodial Services' philosophy and management of young people

### 1. Introduction

Youth Custodial Services has developed a Philosophy which dictates the values to be applied by all Youth Custodial staff members in dealing with young persons, their families and the broader community and has been developed in order to provide information on the overarching goals of Youth Justice Services.

Youth Custodial staff members, young persons and their parents or guardians are entitled to an understanding of the rationale underlying why we do things in the way that we do.

### 2. Purpose

The Youth Justice Services' Philosophy has been developed around the principle that a critical part of any young person's development towards adulthood is their capacity for law-abiding, responsible citizenship with all its attendant rights, responsibilities and obligations.

A copy of the Philosophy is attached to this Rule as [Appendix 102.1](#). The document is also available electronically by accessing the Department's Intranet (CSinet) at: [J-Staff > CSinet > Community and Juvenile Tools and Information > CYJ Realignment Project](#)

The obligation for the development of young persons towards becoming law-abiding, responsible citizens rests primarily with their parents or extended family networks. However, where a young person comes into contact with Youth Custodial Services, Youth Custodial staff members will ensure that our management of that young person facilitates opportunities for the continuing development of law-abiding, responsible citizenship.

### 3. Scope

This rule applies to all Youth Custodial Services staff, volunteers and contractors and should be read in conjunction with all relevant rules, standing orders and Departmental policies and procedures.

### 4. Key Stakeholders

The following 3 groups are identified as key stakeholders:

- young persons
- parents/guardians/extended family
- youth custodial staff members.

- 4.1** Expectations of young persons - it is expected that young persons within the limits imposed by maturity and intellectual capacity, will:
- 4.1.1 Comply with the minimum standards of behaviour.
  - 4.1.2 Accept responsibility for their behaviour and the consequences that flow from the choices that they make.
  - 4.1.3 Work with their families and Youth Custodial staff members to overcome difficulties, within their control, which may have contributed to their offending behaviour.
- 4.2** Expectations of parents/guardians - it is expected that the parents/guardians of young persons in contact the Youth Custodial Services will:
- 4.2.1 Accept that they have the primary responsibility for the development of their children.
  - 4.2.2 Accept that they have an important role in working with the staff of Youth Custodial Services in the rehabilitation of their children.
  - 4.2.3 Accept that they have the responsibility, within the constraints of their personal circumstances, to assist their child in complying with the conditions of any order of the court and ensure that they do not act illegally or unlawfully.
  - 4.2.4 Respect and comply with Youth Custodial Services' principles rules and operations showing mutual respect of staff and other involved people.
- 4.3** Expectation on Youth Custodial staff members - it is expected that all staff members will:
- 4.3.1 Seek to actively involve the young person's parents/guardians in the management, rehabilitation and reintegration of their child into the family and/or community.
  - 4.3.2 Participate within the Youth Assessment and Review meetings, through the provision of unit officer's assessment reports outlining the young person's progress within the custodial living units.
  - 4.3.3 Seek to maximise the opportunities for the young person to make choices and exercise self discipline and self responsibility within the constraints imposed by the court order, the young person's level of maturity and the setting in which the juvenile is located.
  - 4.3.4 Resist from taking on responsibilities that more properly rest with the young person or their parents/guardian.
  - 4.3.5 Ensure that where the young person is not complying with the behavioural standards expected that appropriate action is taken.
  - 4.3.6 Make every effort to work with young people and their families to assist them in addressing skills deficits and other issues that may impact upon the young person's offending behaviour.

## 5. Standards of Youth Custodial Facilities

The Australasian Juvenile Justice Administrators (AJJA) has endorsed service standards for youth custodial facilities. These standards are based on the United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty; the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (the Beijing Rules) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The management of youth custodial facilities shall be consistent with the principles of these standards.

- 5.1 The objectives of youth custodial facilities should be to provide a humane, safe and secure environment, which assist young people to address their offending behaviour and to make positive choices about their offending behaviour, both during custody and upon their return to the community.
- 5.2 Youth Custodial facilities should aim to maximise young people's chances of rehabilitation and integration into society.
- 5.3 The fundamental principles of this philosophy are to provide young people in youth custodial facilities with:
  - 5.3.1 a safe and secure environment
  - 5.3.2 living conditions that meet duty-of-care requirements
  - 5.3.3 privacy and dignity
  - 5.3.4 programs and services that meet their educational, vocational and gender and age-related needs
  - 5.3.5 adequate health services
  - 5.3.6 adequate recreation facilities
  - 5.3.7 an acknowledgement of the complexities of cultural diversity of the population and the wider community.
- 5.4 A full list of the Australasian Juvenile Justice Administrators Standards for Juvenile Custodial Facilities (March 1999) is included in [Appendix 102.2](#).

## 6. Attachments

- [Appendix 102.1 Youth Justice Services' Philosophy](#)
- [Appendix 102.2 - Australasian Juvenile Justice Administrators Standards for Juvenile Custodial Facilities \(March 1999\)](#).


## Version history

Version	Approved	Effective from
First published as Management Philosophy	25 April 2001	25 April 2001
Renamed: Juvenile Custodial Philosophy and Management of Juveniles	17 July 2008	17 July 2008
Renamed: Youth Custodial Services' philosophy and management of young people	27 August 2012	27 August 2012

Rule made pursuant to Section 181 (1) of the *Young Offenders Act 1994* and the *Young Offenders Regulations 1995* by the Commissioner being the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Corrective Services with the approval of the Minister for Corrective Services.

ON THE 27<sup>th</sup> DAY OF AUGUST 2012

MINISTER for CORRECTIVE SERVICES

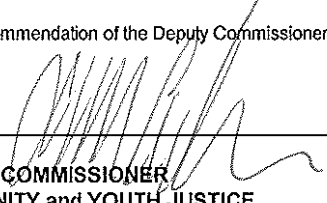


COMMISSIONER  
DEPARTMENT of CORRECTIVE SERVICES



on the recommendation of the Deputy Commissioner Community and Youth Justice and the Director Youth Custodial Services

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER  
COMMUNITY and YOUTH JUSTICE



DIRECTOR  
YOUTH CUSTODIAL SERVICES

