

Media Release

31 March 2023

The cost-of-living is climbing, but school holidays don't have to break the bank in the City of Cockburn

Families are bearing the brunt of soaring inflation, with the cost of bread, dairy, meat, fruit and vegetables rising by an average of nine per cent in January, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

So where do families turn when fuel costs have leaped nearly eight per cent, recreation and culture costs are up by 10 per cent, and it's 18 per cent more expensive to go on a holiday or rent travel accommodation, all with another school holiday break just around the corner?

Their local council-run library, park, snorkel or cycle trail, workshop or school holiday activity program, that's where!

The City of Cockburn offers a host of totally free activities at a variety of top-notch facilities and locations that can literally save families hundreds of dollars while also providing buckets of fun.

A huge majority of these activities are available free of charge, apart from the cost of a slap-up picnic, or available for as little as a gold coin donation. Or how about \$35 a day for a range of exciting, supervised school holiday activities and outings.

"Local Government has always provided a range of free and low-cost activities for families and the City of Cockburn excels in this area. It really is very easy to spend time, not money, right here in Cockburn," Mayor Logan Howlett said.

"With school holiday three-day sports camps costing an average \$200-\$300+ in Perth, Cockburn's free and low-cost activities are a boon for local families and their visitors.

"This makes it easy for friends, grandparents and carers to find something close by to create a fun day without the added worry of affordability.

"This is especially so in Cockburn where you can roam from wetlands to waves to experience a range of activities that provide a great deal of variety and stimulation.

"The City invests every year providing and maintaining recreation facilities and services for our residents and visitors, proving Cockburn is the best place to be this April school holidays."



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When local father, Andy Davies, first moved to Cockburn finding opportunities for his son Oscar to make new friends was a priority. However, the costs and logistics were a problem.

“It’s not just the cost of an event or activity. It’s transport and lunch and equipment hire. It all adds up and it can make things prohibitively expensive,” Mr Davies said.

That all changed when Mr Davies discovered the City of Cockburn’s Outrage School Holiday program.

“The Outrage program planned out full day experiences, with all of the logistics included. It not only makes things affordable, but simple and easy.”

“Oscar loves being outdoors and adventuring, so it has been amazing for him to be able to go canoeing and go-karting. He also really loved some of the more casual activities, like movie excursions and social gatherings. There is really something for young people of all interests.”

“We have lived in Singapore, New Zealand and on the East Coast of Australia, but we’ve never had anything as well organised, affordable and convenient as this.”

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For more information contact:
Media and Communications Officer
City of Cockburn
T: 08 9411 3551
E: media@cockburn.wa.gov.au