From a Developer’s perspective, the CFbD Project has provided a framework that ensures the needs and wants of children are properly incorporated into the planning of recreational spaces. The process gives the Developer confidence in knowing that the places he or she creates will appeal and be used by the children they were intended for. 
Australand Project Manager, Shell Cove

“A Sunny Place to Be”

Maycie Aged 5

“To be asked to have a say in what goes in my local park is great. I never thought that I could help design a place that my family and friends would love to come and play in. It was exciting to be listened to by people who make the decisions on what happens in our neighbourhood. I can’t believe my ideas and drawings might get used to design a great place...it really makes us feel important.”
Emily, student, aged 10

“Very practical, worthwhile for local government – including planners and engineers”
Council Section Manager

The CFbD Project gratefully acknowledges Debra Langridge Co-Author and the NSW Commission for Children and Young People for their sponsorship and production of the CFbD Resource Toolkit.
The Child Friendly by Design Project (CFbD) is coordinated by Healthy Cities Illawarra and works with agencies, organisations and local government to make child and family-friendly places and spaces a reality in local communities throughout Australia.

The CFbD Project has involved children, young people and families in the design and redesign of public open spaces. Many conventional planning processes do little to give children, young people and families a ‘voice’ on what is important about the places in their communities.

The CFbD Project has sought to change this process and in doing so, has developed a Resource Toolkit to help guide and direct practice, to create child and family friendly spaces that connect the wider community.

Consultation by the CFbD team involves different strategies ranging from Workshops, project planning, community consultation, designing for play, and plan development. Regardless of where a community or agency is in its vision to create child-friendly communities, we are able to design and coordinate a program that brings together children, young people, families and community members, with representatives from Councils, health, schools and local businesses and organisations.

Our CFbD Workshop series is often the first step in the process. It has been created to support the implementation of the CFbD Resource Toolkit, and with a very ‘hands-on’ approach, assists with the translation of the theory of child-friendly spaces, into the practice of making child-friendly places. A range of tools and strategies are presented, together with ideas and working examples of designing child-friendly places, and ideas for working with children and young people, local government or planners and designers.

The CFbD model of working within communities supports the asset based community development approach. It provides practical examples of how organisations can better work together within community strengthening and place-based approaches in order to achieve connected communities.

“Making child-friendly places a reality

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