

Encouraging Your Early Learning Service to Create a LOUD fence

A Support Guide for Families and Loved Ones



What is a LOUD Fence?



A display of **brightly coloured** ribbons attached to a fence, tree, gate or similar structure, to demonstrate a shared commitment to the safety and wellbeing of children and families. It also acknowledges and stands in solidarity with victim-survivors of abuse, violence, and harm.

In Early Years settings, it is a **powerful statement of child safety** and a way to stand in solidarity with the community.

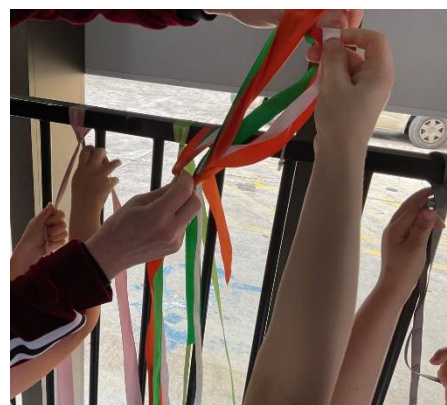
The ribbons remind big people to listen to little people.

1. Start the conversation

Approach your child's early learning service and ask if they would consider creating a LOUD fence. You could start by saying:

- "We'd love to see ribbons tied here as a way of showing families and children that safety is a priority."
- "The ribbons help children know their voices matter and they will be listened to."

A respectful, face-to-face conversation is the best way to introduce the idea



2. Share why it matters

Explain how a LOUD fence benefits everyone:

- **For children:** It gives them a *visible* voice and shows they are safe, heard, and valued.
- **For families:** It builds trust that the service is working in partnership with them.
- **For staff:** It's a reminder that child safety procedures are in place and being taken seriously.
- **For the community:** It shows the service is standing with survivors, families, and children.

3. Suggest practical steps

If your service is open to the idea, you might suggest:

- Holding a small ribbon-tying event where families and children can be involved.
 - Inviting families to contribute messages of support.
 - Placing information in the service newsletter or on noticeboards.
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4. Support children's voices

Encourage your service to remind children that:

- Every Ribbon Has a Voice – Just Listen.
 - Their voices matter and adults are here to listen.
 - Tying a ribbon is a way of showing their feelings in a safe and supportive way.
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5. Offer your support

Let staff know you are willing to help:

- Provide ribbons or help with setting up the space.
 - Volunteer to explain the meaning of the ribbons at a parent meeting or in a newsletter.
 - Share with other families why the ribbons matter – visual acknowledgement.
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Final thoughts

This is a small action with a big message. A LOUD fence says:

- *We listen to children.*
- *We stand with families.*
- *We are committed to child safety.*

Every Ribbon Has a Voice – Just Listen.



Explaining the Ribbons to Children

Keep it simple and empowering:

“The ribbons remind big people to listen to little people.”

[Having conversations with children and young people | National Office for Child Safety.](#)

Need Help or Guidance?

Email: admin@loudfence.org.au

Website: www.loudfence.org.au

Supports available

If you or someone in your community is affected by the content of this guide, please contact:

- **Sexual Assault Crisis Line (SACL):** 1800 806 292
- **1800 RESPECT:** 1800 737 732
- **Lifeline:** 13 11 14
- **Blue Knot Foundation:** 1300 657 380
- **Parentline:** 13 22 89
- **13 Yarn:** 13 92 76