



Merri-bek City Council

Supporting our LGBTQIA+ Families

November 2022

Acknowledgement of Country



Merri-bek
City Council

Merri-bek City Council acknowledges
the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as
the Traditional Custodians of the lands
and waterways in the area now
known as Merri-bek.

We pay respect to their Elders past,
present and emerging, as well as
to all the First Nations communities
who significantly contribute to
the life of the area.

History & Seeing a Need



Merri-bek
City Council

- 2008 Assisted Reproduction Treatment Legislation was introduced
- We began to see increase in Rainbow families
- We saw the gap for these families who wanted to connect with other Rainbow families



Rainbow Families Uniqueness



Merri-bek
City Council

Rainbow families are reminded frequently that their families are different.

The connection they have with one another is amazing.



Connecting



Merri-bek
City Council



Communication



Merri-bek
City Council

- What's App Group – 80 people on it
- Where they can ask questions, organise meet up's etc.
- We promote events they maybe interested in attending



Engagement across Council



Merri-bek
City Council

MCH Team

Social Policy Team

Children Services Team – Supported Playgroups and Preschool Field Officer

Children Centre we are co-located with



Titles and Terminology



Merri-bek
City Council

We are learning everyday



gay
bisexual
transgender
LGBTQIA+
intersex
lesbian
queer

Quotes from our families



Merri-bek
City Council

“The Rainbow group has made us feel safe, accepted and allowed us to connect with other Rainbow families which is lovely for our children”.

“Starting a Rainbow family can be isolating. The process is often long and not without its challenges”.

“The group for me has filled a gap for supporting queer parents and recognising the need for inclusivity and allyship”.

“This is no longer a gathering it is a big family reunion”



Thank you for listening



Merri-bek
City Council

