

FACT SHEET - LIBERTY SWING

The Shire of Kalamunda has obtained grant funding from the Independent Living Centre of WA and Variety WA The Children's Charity for the purchase and installation of a Liberty Swing into the playground area of our beautiful Stirk Park, which boasts wheelchair accessible footpaths and toilets.

The Liberty swing is a world-first Australian innovation, a swing that allows wheelchair - bound children and adults the opportunity to experience the joy of having a swing in the park.

A Liberty Swing in Stirk Park can be accessed by individuals as well as groups from local special schools. For a small fee, a special security key (for seat belt storage and ramp disengagement), may be purchased from the Shire of Kalamunda. The key allows access to the swing in a public park at any time, in the same way as any child can swing in a park. Keys will be available to borrow or purchase from the Shire of Kalamunda Administration Centre or the Kalamunda Library.

By installing the swing close to the existing playground area, near an accessible footpath and providing disabled vehicle access, the whole family of a person with a disability is able to enjoy the park and its facilities. Previously, disabled children (and adults) have not had any facilities which are especially for them, yet enable them to integrate with others.

Occupational therapists have reported that the therapeutic benefits of having a swing for people in wheelchairs are enormous, particularly in terms of head and muscle control and displaying emotion.

Conditions of use:

- Only carer plus person using the swing to be in the swing area at any time
- Carer to remain in swing area with person in wheelchair at all times
- Carer to be over 16 years old
- Maximum combined weight of person and wheelchair 250 kg
- Keys are available for purchase or hire at the Shire of Kalamunda Administration Centre or the Kalamunda Library and the Craft Wagon (on weekends).
- The Shire of Kalamunda will not be liable for any injuries resulting from inappropriate use of the equipment

The purchase and installation of this swing was proudly sponsored by:

- **INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTRE OF WA (INC)**
- **VARIETY WA THE CHILDREN'S CHARITY**
- **THE SHIRE OF KALAMUNDA**

For further information or details on how to access the Liberty Swing, please contact the Shire of Kalamunda 9257 9999 or 9257 9958.

