



Tattooing or Branding and Children Information Sheet

Section 103 Children and Community Services Act 2004

Children under 16 years of age are not allowed to have any part of their body tattooed or branded.

A person who tattoos or brands a child under the age of 16 years can be fined \$12,000 and imprisoned for one year.

Obtaining written consent for a child 16 years of age and over

Children over 16 years of age are not allowed to have any part of their body tattooed or branded unless the child's parent has provided their written consent for a specific tattoo or brand on a specific part of the child's body

A person who tattoos or brands a child over the age of 16 years without parental consent that describes the type of tattoo or branding approved, and its location on the child's body can be fined \$12,000 and imprisoned for one year.

The child's parent must provide written consent for a child over the age of 16 years. A pro-forma consent form is available on the Department's website at www.childprotection.wa.gov.au. A number of tattoo businesses have also developed pro-forma consent forms that parents can use. When providing written consent, parents must:

- describe the type of tattoo or branding that they are giving consent for: and
- specify where the tattoo or branding is to be located on their child's body.

This section does not apply to tattooing or branding carried out for medical or therapeutic purposes.

Further information – concerns about tattooing or branding of a child

If you would like more information or have any concerns about the tattooing or branding of a child, please contact the Department for Child Protection and Family Support on (08) 9222 2555.