



Premier of Western Australia

Our Ref: 59-292354

Ms Kylie Pussell
Chief Executive and Founder
Miracle Babies Foundation
Kylie.pussell@miraclebabies.org.au

Dear Ms Pussell

Thank you for your letter dated 5 October 2021 regarding World Prematurity Day on 17 November 2021, highlighting the incidence of premature birth, and the associated challenges faced by parents and families.

The global theme for World Prematurity Day 2021, *Zero separation Act now! Keep parents and babies born too soon together*, is certainly appropriate given the challenges that are being faced by many as result of the pandemic situation.

I was saddened to learn that the valued face to face services of the Miracle Babies Foundation have been suspended in many areas across Australia due to COVID-19 restrictions. I am sure you appreciate the importance of keeping newborn and sick infants and their families safe during these challenging times, however I acknowledge that restrictions can contribute to family separation and isolation.

It is heartening to learn that the Miracle Babies Foundation has been able to innovate and find ways to continue to provide valuable support services for these families through the NurtureTime Online service.

Thank you for taking the time to raise my awareness of this important issue. The dedication and commitment of Miracle Babies in finding ways to reach families in need and advocating so strongly for support to families is highly commendable. I extend my best wishes to you for a successful World Prematurity Day in 2021.

Yours sincerely

Mark McGowan MLA
PREMIER

02 NOV 2021