

About Cameron Whitelaw's Support Crew

The single most contributing factor to the success of Cam Can & Associates is without a doubt Cameron Whitelaw's Support Crew.

WHO ARE CAMERON WHITELAW'S SUPPORT CREW?

Cam's Crew comprises a small group of 11 people, some family and mostly friends. This committed group have known Cameron for varying lengths of time. Family have known Cameron since he was born however, others have become to know him equally well through their involvement and association with him over the years.

HOW OLD ARE THE PEOPLE IN CAM'S CREW?

It was a conscious decision to ensure there would always be a number of people on Cam's Crew of the same generation and close as possible in age to Cameron. The reason for this is that Cameron is most likely to out-live his parents and some other family members. Having younger people as members of Cam's Crew ensures there will be people to support Cameron and to follow through with plans for his life, even when his parents are no longer here.



Cam's Crew has members ranging in age from very young (Cameron's little sister, born in 2006) through to people his parents' age. The majority of Cam's Crew are close in age to Cameron.

WHAT IS THE FUNCTION OF CAM'S CREW?

The function of Cam's Crew is to provide guidance and support to enable Cameron to plan for a good life and achieve his goals, dreams and wishes. Cam's Crew developed a set of principles and these principles are upheld by Cam's Crew at all times. All decisions made by Cam's Crew are tested against this set of Principles (The Principles are listed at the foot of this document).

All members of Cam's Crew have equal authority. No one member, not even Cameron's parents, has any more authority than any of the other members on Cam's Crew.

HOW DID CAM'S CREW GET TOGETHER – WAS IT INTENTIONAL?

Yes. When Cameron's Crew first formed, there were only six members comprising parents, Cameron's Aunt, brother and two people who at an earlier time had worked with Cameron as support workers, but remained in Cameron's life as friends. The group came together following Cameron's first *Person Centred Planning* day. To support Cameron into the future the Crew recognised it was also important to invite people who believed in Cameron and who brought with them valuable knowledge, skills & life experiences.

HOW LONG HAVE THEY BEEN WORKING TOGETHER AND HOW OFTEN DO THEY MEET?

Cameron Whitelaw's Support Crew first got together in November, 2006 following Cameron's first *Person Centred Planning* day. For the first two and a half years, the Crew met every month as there were numerous items on the agenda to be achieved in a relatively short time frame. Since achieving major goals, the Crew hold meetings quarterly but communicate through email and catch up regularly through projects at Cameron's house and socially.

IS CAMERON INVOLVED?

Cameron attends every Crew get together. He is a valued member of the team. Cameron contributes in his own way, taking in all that is going on with a keen ear. Cameron is non-verbal however his receptive communication is reasonable and he clearly indicates his preferences.

IS CAMERON WHITELAW'S SUPPORT CREW INCORPORATED?

No. Cam's Crew decided not to incorporate. The group's values are enshrined in the Principles they developed. Cam's Crew believe that incorporating would not add value to the way the group operates.

ARE THE PEOPLE ON CAM'S SUPPORT CREW PAID?

No. Every member of Cam's Crew give freely and willingly of their time.

WHAT ARE SOME GOALS ACHIEVED BY CAMERON WHITELAW'S SUPPORT CREW?

Cam's Crew didn't want Cam to miss out on attending "Leavers" when he completed high school and organised a Leavers holiday for him.

The most significant achievement has been building a business for Cameron to operate – CAM CAN & Associates

Regularly visiting the family farm in Pingelly to assist with farm work – monthly trips for two or three days continue to be enjoyed by Cameron

Researching and obtaining a communication device

Setting Cameron up to live in his own home – another major project achieved!

Guiding Principles for Cameron Whitelaw's Support Crew

Cameron Whitelaw's Support Crew members are working together because they have the desire to assist Cameron to plan for his future.

Cameron Whitelaw's Support Crew members will work together to action plans developed for Cameron in a timely manner.

Cameron Whitelaw's Support Crew members believe that he has the capacity to participate in making decisions for his future. Cameron's capacity will be acknowledged, respected, and demonstrated in all dealings of the Crew.

All decisions made by the Cameron Whitelaw's Support Crew will demonstrate regard for the Cameron's safety, comfort, and dignity.

All support/services will be customised and individualised for Cameron with a focus on expanding Cameron's personal community and his social connections.

All members of Cameron Whitelaw's Support Crew will conduct their business in the spirit of mutual respect, cooperation, and collaboration.

All paid services developed and/or contracted by Cameron Whitelaw's Support Crew will be customised and individualised for Cameron and not just based on availability.

Members of Cameron Whitelaw's Support Crew will only negotiate contracts with people and/or agencies able to demonstrate a proven ability to provide services as identified by the Crew. These services will be person centred.



People who work through Cameron Whitelaw's Support Crew are not "attached" to the settings in which the Cameron lives, works, volunteers, or recreates – their primary relationship is with the Cameron.

Cameron Whitelaw's Support Crew members will fulfil any legal requirements associated with the Crew's business.