**DATE**

**Press release for immediate use**

**Insert name of your town / suburb / school SAYS “FREE THE CHILDREN”**

\*\*name of your org / town etc is proud to be part of a national campaign calling for an end to the detention of asylum seeker children. Our event is one of hundreds around the nation supporting the basic rights of children.

For \*\* days at \*\*insert exact location, we are hosting an installation to represent the 1,023 children locked in Australia’s immigration detention facilities today. We are asking members of the public to come down, symbolically free a child and then sign an action card letting our local MP, \*INSERT YOUR MPs NAME\*\* and Immigration Minister, Scott Morrison know that they support a child’s right to freedom.

This campaign has been coordinated by the Australian Coalition to End Child Detention\*, a group of national and international agencies focused on alternatives to locking up children.

NB change quote to reflect YOUR spokesperson “\*\*name of your org . school or I is hosting this social action because we feel very strongly that no child should be indefinitely detained. These kids are no different to the kids of \*\*name your school / town / suburb/ Australia\*\*. We know that many people in our community want to take positive action for asylum seekers and this is one way to do so” states \*\*person’s name\*\*

Children in detention on Nauru and Christmas Island do not have adequate education or healthcare. Being locked up indefinitely anywhere damages mental health, effects a child’s development and their overall wellbeing. No other nation treats asylum seeker and refugee children in this way.

http://endchilddetentionoz.com

**USEFUL INFO**

Latest detention statistics

More information [www.chilout.org](http://www.chilout.org)

**CONTACT :** \*\*\*need name and ideally mobile number of spokesperson or someone happy to field calls, answer journalists q’s about your local event and put them in touch with spokesperson.