



Working in partnership

Keeping children and young people safe is the responsibility of the whole community. Supporting families involves multiple agencies.

The Department works in partnership with other Western Australian government agencies, community service organisations and the wider community to protect children and support individuals and families.

The Department is committed to maintaining and strengthening these partnerships through collaborative policy development, interagency agreements and local arrangements. Strong partnerships are a key part of providing services to our clients and the community.

The Department provides funding to non-government organisations to deliver over 300 programs to children, young people and families across Western Australia.

Contact the Department for Child Protection and Family Support

For further information about the Department for Child Protection and Family Support telephone (08) 9222 2555 or 1800 622 258 or visit www.childprotection.wa.gov.au.

If you have concerns for the safety and wellbeing of a child, contact your local Department for Child Protection and Family Support district office.

COUNTRY

Goldfields
Tel: (08) 9022 0700

Wheatbelt
Tel: (08) 9621 0400

Murchison
Tel: (08) 9965 9500

Kimberley East
Tel: (08) 9168 0333

Kimberley West
Tel: (08) 9192 1317

Pilbara
Tel: (08) 9185 0200

Great Southern
Tel: (08) 9841 0777

Peel
Tel: (08) 9583 6688

South West
Tel: (08) 9722 5000

METROPOLITAN

Armadale
Tel: (08) 9497 6555

Cannington
Tel: (08) 9351 0888

Fremantle
Tel: (08) 9431 8800

Joondalup
Tel: (08) 9301 3600

Midland
Tel: (08) 9274 9411

Mirrabooka
Tel: (08) 9344 9666

Perth
Tel: (08) 9214 2444

Rockingham
Tel: (08) 9527 0100

Department for Child Protection and Family Support

Western Australia's child protection
and family support agency

Who we are

The Department for Child Protection and Family Support (the Department) is the key Western Australian government agency responsible for child protection and family support services.

The Department protects and cares for children and young people who are in need, and supports families and individuals who are at risk or in crisis.

The Department administers the *Children and Community Services Act 2004*, along with other Western Australian legislation including:

- *Working With Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004*
- *Parental Support and Responsibility Act 2008*
- *Adoption Act 1994*



What we do

The Department has district offices across the State that provide three key services, encompassing a range of programs and initiatives:

- **Protecting children and young people from abuse and harm**
 - Protecting children from significant abuse and harm, including building safety measures within the family or placing children and young people in the CEO's care
 - Reviewing the criminal records of people who work with children and young people to assess their suitability
- **Supporting children and young people in the CEO's care**
 - Care planning for children and young people in care
 - Assessment and support for the Department's foster carers
 - Providing care and support for children and young people in residential facilities
- **Supporting families and individuals at risk or in crisis**
 - Supporting families through programs, such as Best Beginnings, Parent Support and Responsible Parenting initiatives
 - Coordinating whole of government policy in relation to family and domestic violence
 - Providing crisis accommodation and support services - funding for community service agencies to provide these services to those who are homeless, at risk of being homeless or escaping family and domestic violence
 - Assessing prospective parents for local and overseas adoptions and assisting those who relinquish children

How we work

The Department receives and assesses concerns for a child or young person's wellbeing along with allegations of child abuse and neglect.

If necessary, the Department investigates such concerns to determine if the child is in need of protection, and takes action to safeguard and promote the child's safety and wellbeing.

The Department works with families to build safety measures around the child, using the Signs of Safety Child Protection Practice Framework.

Where it is not possible or safe for a child to remain at home, the Department makes alternative care arrangements, such as placing the child with relative carers, foster carers or caring for them in residential facilities.

The Department is committed to working with all members of the community, including Aboriginal people and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds to ensure that children are cared for, and families are supported, in ways that respect their culture, religion and community.

The Department carries out its important responsibilities within a number of policy frameworks:

- Signs of Safety Child Protection Practice Framework
- Out of Home Care Services Framework
- Residential Care Conceptual and Operational Framework
- Foster Care Partnership Framework
- Family Support Services and Practice Framework
- Responsible Parenting Service and Practice Framework
- Aboriginal Services Framework
- Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Services Framework
- People Development Framework

These can be viewed on the Department's website at: www.childprotection.wa.gov.au.