

# Questions to ask when a child or young person is placed in your care

When a child or young person comes into your care, there are a number of questions you should ask Child Protection or the authorised Aboriginal agency. While these questions are designed to help you understand the needs of the child or young person, and the potential impact on your home, family life and routines, Child Protection or the authorised Aboriginal agency may not be able to provide all the information you request.

## General questions to ask

- What is the expected length of the care arrangement?
- Why does this child or young person need a kinship care arrangement?
- Does the child or young person have any allergies or illnesses?
- Does the child or young person have any particular dietary requirements?
- Are there any sensitive key issues to be aware of?
- What is their emotional or physical state?
- Is there anything I should know about how to support the individual needs of the child or young person?
- What cultural supports are available for the child or young person to ensure connection to community?
- What Aboriginal services are available in my area?
- What does the child or young person understand about why they have come into my care?
- Is there training or support available to make this kinship care arrangement successful?
- If the child or young person is coming into my care from another carer, is it possible to speak with the previous carer?
- Why did the previous care arrangement break down?
- What items are needed to care for the child or young person and what is needed to help them settle in?

## Questions to ask about court and protection orders

- What protection order is the child or young person on?
- Are there any special protection order conditions I need to know about?
- Are there any key meetings or court dates that I would be required to attend?

## Questions to ask about contact arrangements

- What contact plans are in place?
- What is the frequency of any contact plans?
- Will their contact arrangements fit with my family?
- Who is the contact with?
- Where are contact visits to be held?
- Will I need to provide transport or support for the child or young person with contact?
- Are the contact visits supervised, and if so, by whom?

## Questions to ask about routines

- Does the child or young person attend childcare, preschool or school?
- Will they continue to attend the same childcare, preschool or school? If so, what are the transport, hours and support requirements for this?
- Does the child or young person have extracurricular activities, such as basketball or swimming, that I will need to provide transport for and support?