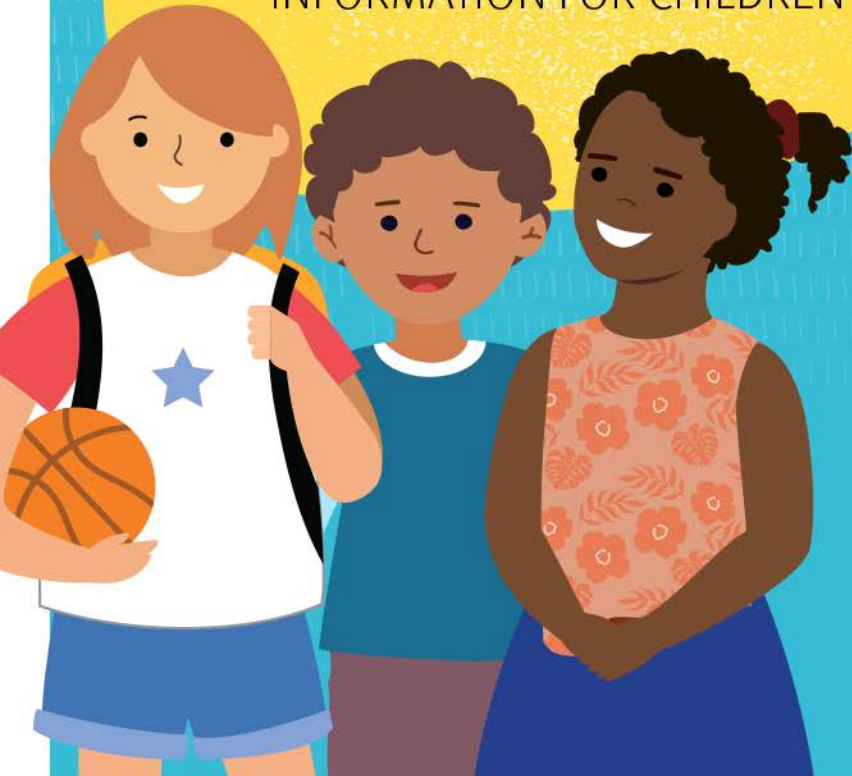


# My rights in care

INFORMATION FOR CHILDREN



# Children in care have rights

If you are being cared for by Child Safety, you have rights.

Rights are like rules to make sure Child Safety, your carers and other adults look after you in the right way.





They set out what you need to be safe, the help you will get to have a say in things that matter to you, and who can help you if you are worried about something.



# I have the right to be safe and healthy

This means you have a right to:



have a safe place to live

see a doctor, dentist and other people who can help you





have somewhere  
safe to keep your  
things



get help to sort  
out any problems  
you have



be treated fairly



play and do things  
you enjoy, like sport,  
music and art

# I have the right to be myself

This means you have a right to:

- keep in touch with and see your family and other people who are important to you
- keep connected with your culture and speak one or more languages
- be who you want to be and express yourself in the way you want to.



- if you are Aboriginal child, to stay connected to and take part in Aboriginal tradition
- if you are a Torres Strait Islander child, to stay connected to and take part in Islander custom
- take part in one or more religions.





# I have the right to have a say about decisions

This means you have a right to:

- be told what is happening
- have a say in decisions — like where you live, when you see your family, where you go to school, and how to look after your health







- be given help, if you need it, to say what you feel and think when decisions are being made
- have a say in who needs to know personal things about you
- make a complaint if you are not happy with a decision or about how you are being cared for.

# I have the right to learn

This means you have a right to:

- go to school and get the help you need to learn
- learn about your culture and community



- get help to think about what you want to do when you are grown up.



## Who can I talk to if I have any questions or worries?

If you have questions about your rights, or a worry about how you are being cared for, you can talk to a person you trust.

You can talk to your Child Safety Officer. Part of their job is to talk to you about your rights and any worries you might have.





You can also talk to a Community Visitor from the Office of the Public Guardian. They can help you talk to Child Safety, or they can talk to Child Safety for you, if you want them to.

If you are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander child or young person, you may have a support worker from an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander service. You can talk to them, and they may be able to help you talk to Child Safety, or talk to Child Safety for you, if you want them to.



## You can call a person who can help (or ask someone you trust to call them for you):

- **Child Safety Officer** — You can talk to your Child Safety Officer or someone from your local Child Safety Service Centre. You can call them at the Child Safety Service Centre.
- **Child Safety After Hours Service Centre** — If you need to talk to a Child Safety Officer after 5pm during the week or on a weekend, you can talk to a Child Safety Officer at the Child Safety After Hours Service Centre.  
**1800 177 135**
- **Office of the Public Guardian** — You can talk to your Community Visitor or a Child Advocate.  
**1300 653 187**

- **Child Safety Complaints** — You can talk to Child Safety Complaints  
**1800 080 464**

These services may also be able to help:

- **Kids Helpline**  
**1800 551 800**
- **CREATE Foundation**  
**1800 655 105**

To find out more about your rights, go to  
**[www.qld.gov.au/myrightsincare](http://www.qld.gov.au/myrightsincare)**



