

All about permanency

Information for young people



FACS and your caseworker want you to know that...

We are working to make things better for you

We want you to have a home where you are safe

We want you to know about your culture

We will provide services to help and support you

What does 'permanency' mean?

'Permanency' means living in the same home and getting help and care from the same people. Every young person should feel safe and that they belong to their family and community. Every young person should have the services they need to help them grow.

Every young person should be able to:



- Go to the same school



- Have the same routine



- Keep the same friends



- Know their family and be able to talk to them



- Learn about their culture

Young people have also told us that permanency means:

Staying in one place

Being accepted for who you are and knowing that you're wanted

Real love, not a facade

Siblings staying together

One caseworker for one period of time

Safety is important

Living in a safe home is important. When things are not safe at home we think children and young people are the most important people to look after. The law in Australia says this, too.

If home isn't safe for you, we have to find somewhere that is. If your home is not safe, FACS and your caseworker will work with you to make changes so you:



- feel safe and wanted



- go to school every day



- always have somewhere else to live that is safe



- stay connected to the people who are special to you



- see a doctor if you are sick

How FACS is helping you



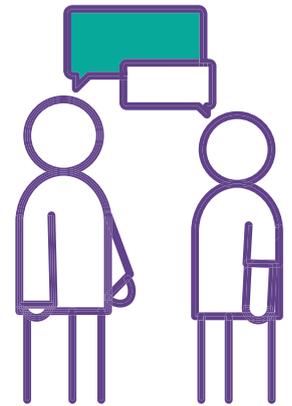
- We will ask you what you think is the best way we can help you.
- We will work to find somewhere safe for you to live as soon as possible.
- We will work with you and your family, friends, and community to do this.
- We will support you to get job training or go to university after you leave school.
- We will support you to learn to drive if you want to do this.

There are different ways to get to 'permanency'.

You might be with someone from your family or a special person called a carer. Your caseworker will support your carer to give you a safe home.

Culture is an important part of who you are. Culture can mean special activities and food, the language you speak, and celebrations. Your caseworker and your carer will help you to stay connected to your family, culture and community.

Your voice is important. You, and what you want, matter. You have the right to have a say in your care and your future.



Talk to your caseworker

If you are worried about anything, talk to your caseworker. You can always ask your caseworker for advice or help. Your caseworker can answer questions about permanency, help with school issues and making contact with your family, and give advice when you are making choices about your future.

My name is

.....

My caseworker is

.....

My plan for a safe and caring home is

.....

.....

For more information about the Permanency Support Program, visit www.facs.nsw.gov.au/psp