

PRACTICE GUIDE

Framework for practice

Strengthening families protecting children framework for practice

The development of the framework for practice was a key milestone in a reformed child and family support system in Queensland. The [Strengthening families Protecting children Framework for practice](#) was developed through a consultation process with stakeholders in 2014 and released in March 2015 and provides a transparent strengths-based, safety-oriented approach to work undertaken by Child Safety through all phases of the child protection process. The framework and its supporting resources:

- defines the parameters and focus of work undertaken by Child Safety
- places a greater emphasis on working collaboratively with children, families and carers during assessment, safety planning and case planning processes
- identifies and supports the development of safety networks around children, their families and carers
- strengthens partnerships with agencies
- promotes enduring safety and positive change in the lives of children and families in contact with Child Safety.

Foundational elements

Outlined in the [Foundational elements](#) document the framework integrates Child Safety's best hopes and vision for children, young people and families, together with key values, principles, knowledge and practice skills.

The supporting Practice tools and processes document summarises creative tools, skills and processes required to engage with a child and family while maintaining a sharp focus on a child's safety, belonging and wellbeing.

Collaborative assessment and planning

The Collaborative assessment and planning (CAP) framework is a key component of the framework for practice. It is used in partnership with children, young people, their family and networks to undertake a balanced and comprehensive assessment of harm, risk and safety, and to collaboratively identify goals and action steps to build future safety, belonging and wellbeing for a child and is detailed in full in the Collaborative Assessment and Planning Framework booklet.

Five practice tip sheets provide information to support the application of the collaborative assessment and planning framework:

- [Harm statements](#)
- [Protection and belonging and Strengths and resources statements](#)
- [Worry statements](#)
- [Action steps and non-negotiables](#)
- [Goal statements](#).

Safety and support networks

Safety and support networks and high intensity responses is another key component of the framework for practice. The development of a safety and support network is undertaken in

partnership with children young people and families to increase safety and strengthen supports. Networks assist in developing and implementing immediate safety plans and ongoing safety and support plans. The high intensity response component has been added to acknowledge that a more intensive, seamless, wraparound safety and support plan is required during periods of increased risk and complexity.

Engagement tools

Other tools associated with the framework for practice aim to increase the engagement, assessment, planning and process skills of workers. These tools include:

- [The Three Houses](#) - a process to involve children, young people and their families in assessment and planning
- [The Safety House Tool](#) - a process for engaging children and young people in safety planning
- [Circles of Safety and Support Tool](#) - a process to help parents identify people for their family's safety and support network
- [The Future House](#) - a process to support parents and caregivers to identify their vision and goals for children's future safety, belonging and wellbeing
- [The Family Roadmap](#) - a process to elicit the views of family members for detailed planning
- [The Immediate Story](#) - a process to help children understand child protection interventions.

Version history

Published on:	September 2019
Last reviewed:	
Owner:	Office of the Chief Practitioner