Can I appeal the decision for my child to be placed with permanent foster carers?

You can ask for a review of decisions that we have made about:

• the permanent foster carers selected to care for your child
• withholding information about who is caring for your child and where your child is living
• refusing, restricting or placing conditions on contact with your child.

Who is responsible for my child’s case plan?

If your child is placed with permanent foster carers who live in your area, your Child Safety Officer will continue to be responsible for your child’s case plan.

If your child’s permanent foster carers live in another geographical area, his or her case plan will be managed by the child safety service centre in that area.

As part of your child’s case plan, we will assess whether the permanent foster carers should be the legal guardians of your child, and apply for a Long-term Guardianship Order to the carers.

If a Long-term Guardianship Order is made, the permanent foster carers will be responsible for looking after your child and making sure your child is well cared for.

Your child will still have a case plan, but it also means that your child will have the security and stability of living with a permanent family, without ongoing intensive involvement from the department.

For more information

If you have any questions about your child’s permanent care, please talk to your Child Safety Officer.
What is My Home?

All children and young people deserve to live in a safe home where they are valued and cared for.

My Home aims to provide permanent homes for children and young people who are in the child protection system and where reunification with their family is no longer possible.

Children will be placed with permanent foster carers who can provide a loving, nurturing and stable home where the child is considered as a member of their family. These carers will generally not provide other types of care such as short-term, respite or emergency care for other children in the child protection system.

Children placed with permanent foster carers are subject to a Child Protection Order until they are 18 years of age (or a decision has been made to apply for a Child Protection Order until they are 18 years of age).

What are the benefits for children who live with permanent foster carers?

For children in the child protection system, having permanent foster carers gives them the chance to live like other kids, and grow into capable, independent adults. They are healthier and do better at school, and their physical, emotional and social development improves.

Providing a permanent, stable home life allows the child to form a trusting and secure attachment to his or her carers, and feel a sense of belonging in being a valued member of the carer’s family.

The child will have an opportunity to learn about his or her culture, language and religion, and be supported as he or she grows and becomes increasingly independent.

Your child will continue to have contact with the significant people in his or her life including family members, and will have a better understanding of his or her personal life history.

Do I have a say about who my child will be placed with?

As a parent you have a right to be involved in making decisions about the permanent care of your child. You can tell the department about the type of family you would like your child to live with.

Your Child Safety Officer will help you to understand why your child will live with permanent foster carers, and what this means for you and your child.

Before your child goes to live with his or her permanent foster carers, your Child Safety Officer will talk with you about having contact with your child. You can meet with your child’s carers, if you are comfortable with this.

When selecting the most suitable carers for your child, we will consider your child’s needs, your preferences as well as those of your child, and whether the permanent foster carers are able to provide the lifelong care your child needs.