



Information for carers about the questions asked of children aged 12-17 years old

Wave 6

Introduction to the child module

What are three things you like doing? What sports, hobbies or other activities would you like to try?

How often does your carer or someone else encourage you to do things with other people, such as sport, community or cultural activities?

Do you have any pets?

Language and cognitive development module

Activity to assess the child's language ability using the Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test (PPVT-4).

Activity to assess the child's problem solving ability using the Matrix Reasoning Test, Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children (WISC IV).

How you are feeling module

How do you feel about the following parts of your life?

- Your school work?
- The way you look?
- Your family (you live with now)
- Your friends?
- The school you go to (or last attended if not at school)?
- The things you have - like money and the things you own?
- Your life as a whole?

In thinking about the future, how well do you think things will go for you?

School and friends module

Are you currently going to school? What was the last grade of school you finished?

How many primary and high schools have you been to?

At school, how often do you:

- Enjoy being there?
- Understand the work in class?
- Try hard?
- Get on well with your teachers?
- Find someone to have lunch with?
- Follow school rules and routines?
- Get assignments, projects and homework done?

Is there a teacher or an adult at school who takes an interest in how you are learning?

Health module

In the last 6 months have you had any health problems or concerns? If yes, who did you see about it?

- How has your health been? (last 4 wks)
- Did you get enough sleep (ever, 4 wks 7 days)
- Did you smoke cigarettes (ever, 4 wks, 7 days)
- Did you have an alcoholic drink (12 mths, 4 wks 7 days)
- Use drugs other than for medical reasons (12 mths, 4 wks 7 days)

School and friends module (cont)

In the last 6 months, have you:

- Received an award, prize or trophy for things you do well?
- Been bullied by other kids or left out of things?
- Had a close friend that you like a lot
- Done physical activity each day?
- How far do you think you will go in your education?

What is the main reason why you might not stay on in full-time education until the end of Year 12?

- It is too early to decide whether I would stay on or not
- Because my friends plan to leave before Year 12
- Parent(s) / relatives recommend that I should leave before Year 12
- I want to start a family
- I'm not interested in continuing education / I don't enjoy it
- Staying on in education will not help me in my future career
- I would prefer to get a job / start a career
- I/my family need the money – so I would need to start working instead

What job or career do you hope to get into?

Have you told anyone that you don't live with your birth parents and do you get bullied or picked on because of this?

15-17 year olds only

If not at school, are you doing any further education or training?

Have you done any paid work in the past 12 months? If yes, what sort of work, is it full or part-time and how many hours?

Behaviour module

A 10 item scale on acting-out behaviour is adapted from Moffitt & Silva. This scale includes questions about jiggling school, physical fights, stealing in the past year.

Have you ever been in trouble with a police officer and given a formal warning or caution, been arrested or taken to a police station?

When you were in trouble because of your behaviour, who did you talk to about it and how helpful were they?

Placement module

Questions about who is in the family you are living with now and how close you feel to them, and how close you feel to important and special people you are not living with.

Thinking about the adults looking after you, how often do they:

- Help you if you have a problem?
- Listen to you?
- Praise you for doing well?
- Do things with you that are just for fun?
- Help you feel part of the family?
- Spend time just talking with you?
- Give you access to a computer or the internet?
- Give you access to a quiet space to study?
- Know about what you do with your free time?
- Know about where you go when you go out?

Overall, how close do you feel to the family you are living with now? By close, we mean how special and important they are to you.

Do you know how long you will be living here?

In the last 12 months have you become more or less close to the family you live with now?

Is there anyone in your family where you are living now who is seriously affected by: Disability or long term illness? Depression or mental illness? Using alcohol or other drugs? Domestic violence?

Do you do extra work around your home because someone is disabled or sick or can't do things?

How happy are you living here? Do you feel settled and safe where you live now? Do you feel at home here?

How much do you visit, talk to and write to your birth family? Do you want to have more or less contact with any of your birth family members?

Do you have any photos of you with your birth parents? How often do you talk to the people you are living with now about your birth parents?

If the birth family has a non-Australian heritage

Apart from English can you speak the languages of your birth parents?

Placement module (cont)

If the birth family has a non-Australian heritage

Do the people you live with respect your cultural background?

Do you have the same religion as your birth parents?

Do you go to any special events or festivals about the country your birth parents or grandparents come from?

Have you been told stories about the country that your birth parents and grandparents came from?

Do you feel proud of the country where your birth parents and grandparents come from?

If the birth family has an Aboriginal heritage

Do you know your families' Countries or Nations of belonging?

Do you know your families language groups? Do you feel connected to your culture?

Do you go to any Aboriginal family or cultural events or festivals?

Do you have contact with your communities? Do you know any people who can tell you things about family and community? Who do you learn about your Aboriginal culture from?

Wellbeing module

How has your health been? Health services and support

Short Mood & Feeling Questionnaire is a 13-item scale developed by Angold Costello & Messer. This involves answering *not true*, *sometimes true* or *true* in relation to feelings such as tired, miserable, restless, unhappy, unloved, not enjoying things, doing things wrong or not being as good as others children.

When you have felt unhappy, sad or depressed, who did you talk to about it and how helpful were they?

In the past 12 months has anyone done any of these things to you? Victimisation Grid

Questions about the areas of your life that COVID-19 impacted.

14-17 year olds only

During the past 12 months, have you thought about self harm? If yes, have you been to a counsellor, psychologist or social worker? Have you ever had sex

that resulted in a pregnancy and what was the outcome of that pregnancy?

Casework module

In the past 12 months (year) how many times have you seen or spoken to [name of caseworker]?

Can you contact a caseworker when you need to?

How often does a caseworker: Talk to you by yourself? Listen to you? Explain decisions made about you clearly? Help you?

Do what they say they will do and keep their promises?

Were you involved in reviewing developing your case plan in the last 12 months? Did you have a say in your case plan? Do you have a copy?

How important is it to you to have a case plan for the following areas of your life? Health? Education? Employment (16-17 yrs)? Seeing your family? Cultural identity?

In the past 12 months (year) how many times have you seen or spoken to [name of caseworker]? What two or three things that you think would make a positive difference for you and other children not living with their birth parents?

Turning 18 module

15-17 year olds only

Has a caseworker started talking to you about a plan for the next couple of years such as where you will work, study and live?

Do you have information about services and support?

Do you get enough help to make decisions about your future?

Do you think you will stay on living here after you turn 18 years old? Where do you plan to live and who with?

Why do you think you will not stay on living here after you turn 18 years old?

List of 14 independent living skills. Do you think you will need help in any of these areas after you turn 18 years old?

Who do you think will help you in those areas after you turn 18?

Thanks for being part of the study