

Quality Assurance Framework

Carers Fact Sheet

Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ)

What is the QAF?

Children and young people need to thrive, to feel safe and have stability and permanency in their lives. Looking after children and young people in OOHC is one of the most important jobs and hearing a carer's voice is equally important.

Your insights into the emotional and psychological wellbeing of a child or young person in your care will help caseworkers provide support when needed. The QAF is not a reflection on your care rather it is to identify if a child or young person is experiencing any difficulties. Identifying problems early means that the right services can be put in place at the right time.

What is my role in the QAF?

- Each 6 months you will be asked to complete an online questionnaire in Viewpoint, an online app provided by your caseworker, which can take up to 20 minutes.
- You will be asked to respond to different statements and how well it

describes the child or young person in your care.

- You will press 'Yes' in Viewpoint if you want to complete the questionnaire or 'No' if you choose not to participate and add reason for your decision.

What happens to the information I provide?

Information collected for the QAF is confidential and will be stored securely and used to provide services to the child in accordance with the law. The *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998* and the *Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002* protects your information.

For more Information

If you would like more information on the questionnaire or the QAF please contact your caseworker or visit

<https://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/about/reforms/children-families/QAF>.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the questionnaire and supporting the child or young person in your care.