

10 Abbreviations and terms

**AAS**

Area Assistance Scheme

AbSec

Aboriginal Child Family and Community Care State Secretariat

ACIS

Alternate Care Information System

ACWA

Association of Childrens Welfare Agencies – peak body for child welfare groups with a strong interest in child protection and substitute care

AIHW

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

CALD

Culturally and Linguistically Diverse

Caseworker

DoCS staff member responsible for working with clients, handling and making decisions about the issues they present

CIW

Corporate Information Warehouse

CLAS

Community Language Assistance Scheme

Communities

Groups that together comprise the community of people in NSW, often refers to people who associate with each other because of ethnic, linguistic or religious ties

Contact report

Report, request for assistance or other contact to DoCS related to the care and protection of children and young persons

CSC

Community Services Centre – local DoCS office

CSGP

Community Services Grants Program

DET

Department of Education and Training

DoCS

NSW Department of Community Services

DoCS Helpline

A 24 hour statewide service for anyone to contact DoCS about the care and protection of children and young persons

DOH

Department of Housing

Domestic Violence Line

Phone service offering counselling, immediate safety and protection, accommodation, income support and advice on legal support to domestic violence victims

EPAS

Ethnic Affairs Priorities Statement

EEO

Equal Employment Opportunity

ESD

Enhanced Service Delivery

FACS

Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services

Families NSW

A coordinated strategy sponsored by the NSW Government to increase the effectiveness of early intervention and prevention services in helping families to raise healthy, well adjusted children. It aims to support parents and carers raising children and help them to solve problems early before those problems become entrenched, through a coordinated network of services

IFBS

Intensive Family Based Services. These services play a vital role in preventing child abuse and neglect by providing a circuit breaker for families in crisis

ISS

Intensive Support Services

JIRT

Joint Investigation Response Team

KiDS

Key Information and Directory System

Mandatory reporting

Certain people are required by law to report children and young persons at risk of harm (refer to section 27 of the *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998*)

MSRG

Multicultural Services Reference Group

NGO

Non-government organisation

Notification

Notification no longer refers to the process of contacting DoCS regarding potential child abuse cases. Please refer to 'reports of risk of harm'

NSW

New South Wales

MOU

Memorandum of Understanding

OCCG

NSW Office for Children – Children's Guardian

OHS

Occupational Health and Safety

OOHC

Out-of-home care is for children and young people who can no longer live with their families

OOSH

Out of School Hours care

PPR

Performance Planning and Review

Report of risk of harm

This term includes and expands upon the previous term 'notification of child abuse'. It encapsulates concerns regarding safety, welfare or wellbeing. Please refer to section 23 of the *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998* for a fuller understanding of risk of harm. Reports may be made by any person regarding a child, young person or child yet to be born

Request for assistance

Families or family members may contact DoCS to make a request for assistance. Refer to chapter 3, part 1 of the Act

SAAP

Supported Accommodation Assistance Program – a joint Commonwealth/State program to provide support for people who are homeless and in crisis or at risk of homelessness

SCAN

Supporting Children with Additional Needs Program

SES

Senior Executive Service

TIS

Translating and Interpreting Service

VAW

Violence Against Women