

## Change to Voluntary Out Of Home Care (VOOHC) supervision arrangements

As transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) proceeds, changes to the VOOHC supervision arrangements will take place.

Ageing Disability and Home Care (ADHC) will slowly withdraw their services and from July 2018, the NSW Government will not provide any specialised disability services. As a result, the supervision of VOOHC placements over 90 days will be transferred to another agency.

FACS will continue to ensure that supervision is provided for children in VOOHC arrangements, because it remains an important quality and safeguard mechanism.

From July 2017 FACS will engage the non-government organisation **Life Without Barriers** to supervise children and young people in VOOHC placements.

Life Without Barriers are a leading social purpose organisation working in more than 300 communities across Australia. They support children, young people and families, people with disability, older people and people with mental illness. They are one of the largest providers of social services in Australia, with a reputation for supporting clients with complex needs and delivering in challenging and new environments.

Life Without Barriers is accredited and monitored by the Office of the Children's Guardian and will report to FACS.

For more information on Life Without Barriers see their website [www.lwb.org.au](http://www.lwb.org.au)

## What does this mean for your child accessing VOOHC

The transfer of the supervision role from ADHC to Life Without Barriers does not change the VOOHC arrangement you currently have in place.

The only change you will notice is the caseworker doing the monitoring and case planning. They will now be from Life Without Barriers instead of ADHC.

If you would like to speak with the Life Without Barriers VOOHC Coordinator you can contact Lisa Yu on 02 9508 4126 or email [VOOHCNSW@lwb.org.au](mailto:VOOHCNSW@lwb.org.au)

## Voluntary Out Of Home Care (VOOHC)

A child or young person under the age of 18 is in VOOHC when:

- their parent has made an arrangement with a registered organisation to provide or arrange care for them and,
- they stay at a place other than their usual home overnight for one or more nights

Only a designated agency or a registered agency accredited by the NSW Office of the Children's Guardian to provide VOOHC can legally arrange, or provide, VOOHC in NSW.

Where a child stays out of their usual home for more than 90 days, FACS (ADHC) is currently responsible for supervising the VOOHC placements with the registered agency, unless arrangements are made with another organisation that is accredited to provide supervision.

## What is the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)?

The NDIS is a nationwide scheme replacing the existing state disability service system in NSW (ADHC).

Under the NDIS, people with a disability will be able to access the reasonable and necessary supports they need to live the life they want and achieve their goals and aspirations. NSW began the transition to the NDIS on 1 July 2016 and it will be completely rolled out across NSW by July 2018.

## Further information

If you have concerns or questions please contact the disability service provider that currently supports your child in VOOHC.

You may also wish to contact the Office of the Children's Guardian for further information about VOOHC

<http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/voluntary-out-of-home-care>