



Office of the
Children's Guardian

A photograph of three young children smiling and looking towards the right. The child on the left is wearing an orange shirt, the middle child is wearing a red shirt, and the child on the right is wearing a blue shirt. The background is a clear blue sky.

Office of the Children's Guardian

[Home](#) > [About us](#) > [Who we are](#)

Who we are

The Office of the Children's Guardian was established under the *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998* to promote the interests and rights of children and young people living in out-of-home care.

In 2013 legislative changes expanded the role of the Office to be an independent government agency that works to protect children by promoting and regulating quality, child safe organisations and services.

The Office reports to the NSW Minister for Family and Community Services and to Parliament.

Under our legislation, the Office of the Children's Guardian:

- accredits and monitors the designated agencies that arrange statutory out-of-home care in NSW
- maintains and monitors the NSW Carers Register, a centralised database of people who are authorised, or who apply for authorisation, to provide statutory or supported out-of-home care
- registers and monitors agencies that provide, arrange or supervise voluntary out-of-home care
- accredits non-government adoption services providers
- authorises the employment of children under the age of 15, and child models under the age of 16, in the entertainment sector
- administers the Working With Children Check and encourages organisations to be safe for children
- administers the Child Sex Offender Counsellor Accreditation Scheme – a voluntary accreditation scheme for persons working with those who have committed sexual offences against children.