



## Recognised Entities



### *Where can I get more information?*

If you have any questions about the Recognised Entities or caring for Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander children and young people, contact your local Child Safety Service Centre.

Freecall the Department of Child Safety on **1800 811 810** (Queensland only).

For more information visit [www.childsafety.qld.gov.au](http://www.childsafety.qld.gov.au)





### ***Which decisions involve a Recognised Entity?***

The Recognised Entity should be involved in all steps in the child protection process including:

- at intake
- during investigation and assessment
- at Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) meetings
- during the court support process
- for case planning
- placement decisions.

A Recognised Entity must also be consulted when decisions are made about temporary changes to various arrangements, for example, parental visits or the child or young person's participation in recreational activities.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people in out-of-home care need to be protected and supported in a way that respects and maintains their culture and family and kinship connections.

When the Department is working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people, their families, carers and communities it engages a Recognised Entity to provide culturally appropriate responses. Recognised Entities provide advice that enables the Department to make decisions affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, young people and their families.

### ***What are Recognised Entities?***

Recognised Entities are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations or individuals approved and funded by the Department of Child Safety, to provide cultural and family advice in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child protection matters.

The *Child Protection Act 1999* requires that Recognised Entities are separate from the Department (generally they are community-based organisations), have Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander members and have appropriate knowledge or expertise in child protection.

