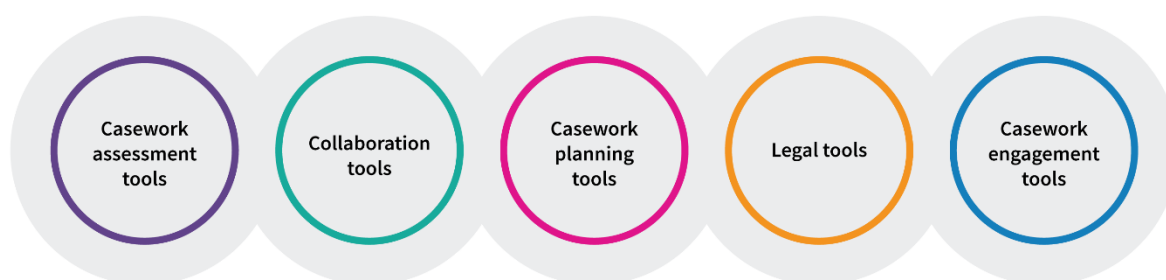


Overview of Casework Tools in Family Preservation

Effectively supporting vulnerable families, helping them to see their own worth, heal from trauma and make lasting change, is not easy. You will need to be genuine, resilient, brave, and calm and have a toolkit of resources, tools and skills to draw upon along the way.

Below you will find links to helpful tools, resources and services in the following clusters:



You will also find links to factsheets that will expand on essential caseworker skills, a summary of specialist support services you can refer families to and an overview of the more common parenting skill development programs.

Casework Assessment Tools

Name	How is this tool used	Links for more information
Safety Assessment	A safety assessment is completed by DCJ within 2 days of a face-to-face response to a Risk of Significant Harm (ROSH) report, and again if there is a significant change in circumstances to determine if a child is safe at home.	SDM® Safety and Risk Assessments
Risk Assessment	A risk assessment is completed by DCJ within 30 days of a safety	SDM® Safety and Risk Assessments

	assessment to determine the likelihood a child will be harmed in the future.	
Risk Reassessment	A risk reassessment is completed by DCJ every 90 days from the initial risk assessment until a case is closed, to determine if the family is increasing or decreasing risk in the home.	SDM® Safety and Risk Assessments
Child/Family Strengths and Needs Assessment	Child/family strengths and needs assessments (CSNA/FSNA) are part of the SDM® suite of tools and are used by some PSP service providers to inform a case plan or Family Action Plan for Change (FAPFC). The CSNA and FSNA are repeated every 90 days until a case is closed.	SDM CSNA and FSNA
Strengths and Stressors Tool	The Strengths and Stressors Tool is used by service providers delivering Intensive Family Preservation services, to better understand a parent's triggers and their resilience over time.	Can be requested from the DCJ Intensive Family Preservation team

Collaboration Tools

Name	How is this tool used	Links for more information
Family Group Conference (FGC)	FGC is a way to bring family members together in a positive way with an impartial facilitator to make a plan for their child. An FGC can be used at any point in	Foundations of Family Group Conferencing

	<p>family preservation casework when decisions need to be made and supports need to be implemented.</p> <p>PSP service providers can request an FGC be arranged and paid for by DCJ when the family has a family preservation package.</p>	
Family Finding	<p>The Family Finding model, developed by Kevin A. Campbell, offers methods and strategies to locate and engage relatives of children currently living in out-of-home care (OOHC).</p> <p>Core beliefs inherent in this approach are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every child has a family, and they can be found if we try. • Loneliness can be devastating, even dangerous, and is experienced by most children in OOHC. • A meaningful connection to family helps a child develop a sense of belonging. • The single factor most closely associated with positive outcomes for children is meaningful, lifelong connections to family. 	<p>Family Connections and Networks – Overview</p> <p>Family Connections and Networks – Practice Tips</p>
Group Supervision	<p>Group Supervision is a shared process of consultation and</p>	<p>Group Reflective Practice</p>

	decision making. There can be significant benefits to service providers participating with DCJ in group supervision.	
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Casework Planning Tools

Name	How is this tool used	Links for more information
Family Action Plan for Change (FAPFC)	A FAPFC is the core case planning document used in family preservation by PSP service providers, in collaboration with DCJ practitioners . It clearly defines DCJ worries and family-led goals.	Case Planning in Preservation and Restoration FAPFC Template Partnering for Safety Collaborative Assessment and Planning (CAP)
Circles of Safety and Support	This tool can be used to help families identify who is in their support network, so they can be included in effective case planning and support.	Circles of Safety and Support

Legal Tools

Name	How is this tool used	Links for more information
Parenting Responsibility Contract (PRC)	When FAPFC goals are not being achieved PSP service providers can recommend, and DCJ can initiate, a PRC to highlight the significance of the concerns that need to be addressed and emphasise the importance of	Parental Responsibility Contract

	parental action. Parents must consent to a PRC.	
Parenting Capacity Orders (PCO)	A PCO may be considered by DCJ when PSP service providers identify that an issue impacting on parenting could be resolved if a parent engaged in a specific service, program, course or treatment. Parents do not need to consent to PCOs but it is preferred that they do.	Parenting Capacity Orders
Supervision Orders	DCJ can request supervision orders from the court if a parent breaches their PRC.	DCJ Other Orders
Temporary Care Arrangement (TCA)	TCAs require a parent's consent and can be initiated by DCJ to allow for the temporary care of a child while a parent undertakes treatment. For example, in-patient alcohol and other drug treatment or mental health treatment. The parent may revoke consent at any time.	Temporary Care Arrangements

Casework Engagement Tools

Name	How is this tool used	Links for more information
Safety House Tool	The Safety House is a practical, visual tool that has been designed to help involve children in safety planning.	Safety House
The Family Roadmap	A process to elicit the views and ideas of family members, in	Family Roadmap

	preparation for detailed collaborative safety planning.	
Future House Tool	The 'Future House' is a visual tool designed to help child protection professionals gain the views of parents, children and family networks.	Future House Tool
Three Houses Tool	The Three Houses are a visual way to identify strengths, risks and vulnerabilities as well as the hopes and dreams of a child.	Three Houses Tool
Strengths Cards	Grounded in strengths-based theory, these 54 illustrated cards open up conversations about the hard stuff in life as well as nurturing new ways of thinking about life's possibilities.	Strength Cards
Bears Emotion Cards	The Bears Emotion cards are a simple yet powerful resource for identifying and talking about and reflecting on feelings.	The Bears Emotions Cards
Reflective Parenting Cards	The Bringing Up Great Kids Reflective Parenting Cards have been developed for use with parents and carers of children of all ages to facilitate reflection about the needs of both children and their parents/carers.	Reflective Parenting Cards

Caseworker Skills

The following resources may be helpful to develop and embed your skills in family preservation work:

- [Relationship-Based Practice](#)
- [Dignity Driven Practice](#)
- [Reflective Practice](#)
- [Working with Families in Preservation and Restoration.](#)
- [Difficult Conversations with Children, Families and Carers – Tips and Guidance](#)
- [Language](#)
- [Tips For Talking With Children and Young People](#)
- [Working with Young People](#)

Support Services

Category	Name and contact	Who can use this service?
Legal	Legal Aid	Legal Aid NSW provides legal services to disadvantaged peoples across NSW in most areas of criminal, family and civil law, and assist people experiencing domestic and family violence.
Domestic and Family Violence	DVCAS Locations and Understanding the cycle of violence 1800 656 463 1800RESPECT	Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Services (WDVCAS) provide information, advocacy and referrals to assist women and their children who are or have been experiencing domestic and family violence, with their legal, social and welfare needs. WDVCAS assists women to obtain effective legal protection through applications for Apprehended Domestic Violence Orders (ADVOs) at all 136 local court locations across NSW.
	Safety Action Meetings (SAMs)	SAMs are fortnightly meetings of government and non-government service providers in

		your local area. At the meeting, service providers will share relevant information and develop priority actions to reduce the threat to your safety.
Mental Health	COMPI – Children of Parents with a Mental Illness	All professionals, parents with a mental illness and the children of a parent with a mental illness.
	Headspace	National youth mental health foundation to help young people learn about mental health and access support if they need it.
	BeyondBlue	BeyondBlue provides information and support to help everyone in Australia achieve their best possible mental health, whatever their age and wherever they live. Specialising in anxiety, depression and suicide prevention.
Homelessness	Link2Home 1800 152 152	Link2home is the state-wide homelessness information and referral telephone service. It is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year.
Health services	Violence, Abuse and Neglect Service (VANS)	Although preventing and responding to violence, abuse and neglect is the responsibility of the whole health system, NSW Health has a network of VAN Services which have principal responsibility for responding to these issues.
	Sustaining NSW Families (SNF)	SNF is a sustained health home visiting service that aims to strengthen relationships between children, parents, and/or carers; build parenting capacity; and enhance child development, wellbeing, and health. The program is offered to families who meet eligibility criteria, which includes mothers experiencing mild anxiety and/or mild

		depression, and circumstances which are known to have an impact on the family.
Financial	Financial Counselling Australia (FCA)	<p>FCA is the national voice for the financial counselling profession in Australia. It is a not-for-profit organisation that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides resources and support for financial counsellors. • Advocates for a fairer marketplace. • Works to raise the profile of financial counsellors. • Advocates to increase access to financial counselling. • Works to improve hardship processes for people in financial difficulty.

Programs to Support Parental Skill Development

Program	Target population	Program aim
Circle of Security	Parents of children aged 3-5 years, but relevant to all families	<p>The Circle of Security is a visual map of attachment that helps parents understand what their child needs from them to feel safe, manage their emotions, and enhance their development. The Circle of Security asks parents to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always be bigger, stronger, wiser and kind. • Whenever possible, follow your child's needs. • Whenever necessary, take charge.
Triple P - Positive Parenting Program	Parents of children 0-12 program and parents of young	Triple P is the flexible, practical way to develop skills, strategies and confidence to handle any parenting situation.

	people for the teen program	
<u>Steppingstones Triple P</u>	Parents of children with physical, intellectual or mental health condition	Steppingstones is based on Triple P's positive parenting strategies. It helps parents manage problem behaviour and developmental issues common in children with disability. It also helps parents; cope with stress, develop a close relationship with their child and teach their child new skills. Parents choose the type of Steppingstones help based on their own needs. They range in intensity from light-touch seminars to ongoing courses.
<u>SafeCare</u>	Parents of children aged 0-5	SafeCare® is an evidence-based training program to help parents of young children at risk of neglect and abuse. The program focuses on three key areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building strong and positive interactions between parents and their children. • Child health. • Home safety.
<u>Captain Steers the Ship</u>	All parents	<u>Captain Steers the Ship</u> is a framework that helps parents be in charge and help kids feel safe.
<u>Parents Under Pressure (PuP)</u>	For families in which there are many difficult life circumstances that impact on family functioning, including: depression and anxiety, substance	The overarching aim of the PuP program is to help parents facing adversity develop positive and secure relationships with their children. Within this strength-based approach, the family environment becomes more nurturing and less conflictual and both parents and children learn to self-regulate their behaviour.

	misuse, family conflict and severe financial stress	The program is home-based and highly individualised
<u>Tuning into to Kids</u>	Parents of children aged 3-17	Tuning in to Kids® is a suite of parenting programs that focus on the emotional connection between parents/carers and their children, from pre-schoolers to teens. The evidence-based programs have proven success in improving parenting, parent-child relationships and children's emotional competence and behaviour.