

## Are Family and Community Services worried about your child?

Community Services is part of a NWS government department called Family and Community Services.

Family and Community Service's job is to make sure that children in NSW are safe and are looked after properly.

People can tell Community Services if they are worried that your child is not safe.

People can tell Community Services if they think your child is not looked after properly.

The law says that some people like:

- Doctors
- Teachers, and
- Social Workers; have to tell Community Services if they think your child is not safe.

Then Community Services will talk to people to check if your child is safe and being looked after properly.

Community Services are allowed to talk to:

- Your child
- Your child's teachers
- Doctors
- Your family
- Your friends, or
- Anyone else who knows your child; without asking you first.



Community Services will also talk to you.

You might feel upset and angry that community services are checking up on you.

That is normal.

### Tips for when you talk to a community services worker

1. Try to stay calm even if you do not feel calm
2. Be honest and answer the questions that the community service worker asks you
3. Be polite
4. Do not shout or say angry things to the community service worker because it could make things worse
5. Tell community services you want a support person to be with you  
It is your right to have a support person with you if you have learning problems or mental health problems  
Have a support person with you anytime you talk to community services
6. Have a support person with you any time you talk to community services



This fact sheet was made by IDRS

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