

Welcome to Our Home – Carer’s Profile

The Welcome to Our Home booklet provides information about your home and family for children and young people who are entering care for the first time or transitioning to a new placement.

Information included in the Welcome to Our Home booklet

Young people in care have told us that the information most important to them about a potential new carer and placement is:

- Who lives there, other children, pets etc.?
- What do they do for fun?
- What is their house like and where do they live?
- What are the routines and rules in the house?
- Where will they sleep?

Why complete a Welcome to Our Home booklet?

Having information about their proposed placement, carers, and their family prior to entering the placement is important to young people as it helps them to familiarise themselves with the care environment they are entering. This information helps reduce the anxiety young people can experience when moving into a new home, helps them to feel safe and build trusting relationships with their carer and their carer’s family.

Territory Families strongly encourages carers to complete a Welcome to Our Home booklet. Your Welcome to Our Home booklet will be shown to a child or young person who may be placed with you. Your information will not be shared without your consent and in some cases you may not wish for a hard copy of your booklet to be given to a young person to keep. If this is the case, please let your Case Manager know.

Creating a Welcome to Our Home booklet

Territory Families has developed a Welcome to Our Home template as a guide for carers. The suggested template includes guidelines on the types of information you may wish to include and spaces for you to insert pictures of you, your family, and your home. You may alter this template as much as you like. You may even wish to make a video.

The Carer template and guidelines can be found [here](#).

You should consider the following things when creating the booklet:

- Writing in a child-friendly way (no jargon), containing information that is relevant and not overwhelming for young people.

Welcome to Our Home

- There is no need to include any address information or surnames – it's important to protect your privacy.
- Use as little text as possible – use lots of photos to introduce your home and family.

If you have questions about completing your Welcome to Our Home booklet or need assistance in completing the booklet please contact your Carer Services Practitioner, Case Manager or the Foster and Kinship Carers Association NT.

Once completed please submit your booklet to your Carer Services Practitioner or Case Manager so it can be saved onto your Carer file.