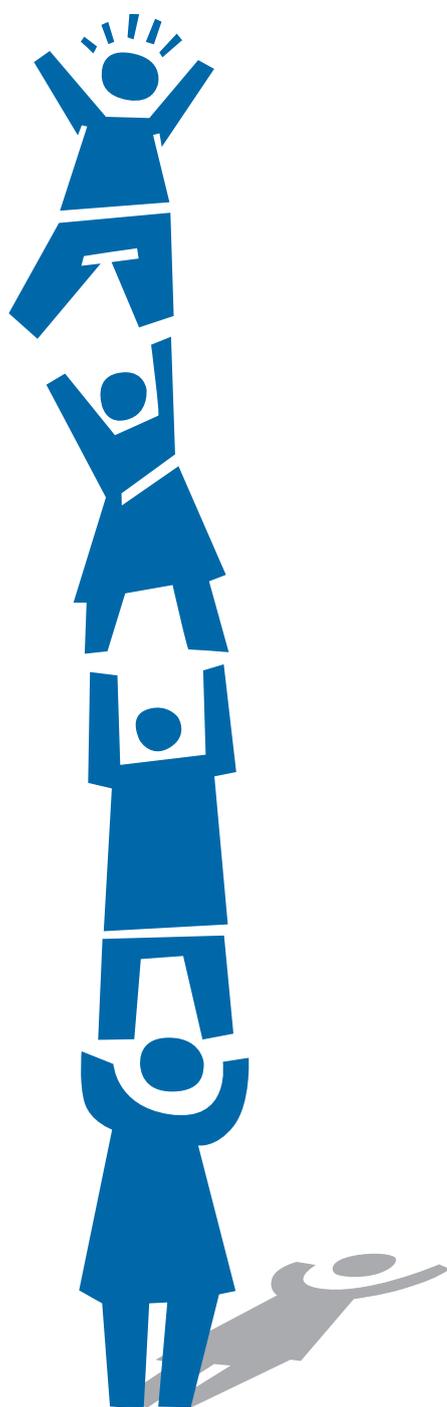


Child Welfare Assessments

Quality assessments,
confident decisions for Family
and Community Services' CSCs



Child Welfare Assessments, your experienced partner

Child Welfare Assessments (CWA) is the new name for the child welfare assessments division of Assessments Australia. CWA (as Assessments Australia) has worked with the NSW government over a number of years in the OOHC sector. In that time, we have successfully conducted thousands of child welfare assessments for FaCS.

In addition to the assessment services provided to FaCS, we are also a leading provider of independent allied health assessments, specifically in disability and aged care services.

CWA — 2012 FaCS Relative and Kinship Care Assessments Approved Provider

CWA has been assessing on behalf of FaCS and CSCs since the RKCA Service Agreement model first commenced in 2008. Continuing our unbroken relationship with FaCS, we have again been approved to assess on your behalf for 2012-13.

In these times of change we bring our extensive experience and collaborative style to support you with assessment capabilities as and when needed to allow you to achieve the best outcomes for children and young people coming into care.

Child welfare assessment services

We have access to a significant team of experienced, specialised child welfare assessors. This provides FaCS's Manager Client Services and Case Workers access to a team of social workers, psychologists, counsellors, disability specialists and others to ensure the right skills and experience for the assessment.

All our assessors are tertiary qualified, trained in the appropriate assessment tools, highly experienced and regularly reviewed.

Their continuing professional development anchors their awareness that our recommendations could have a far reaching impact on a child's future.

Objective and quality assured

Our assessment processes are independent, impartial and peer-reviewed for consistency and quality. Having no involvement in case management allows CWA assessors to focus on carer evaluation and appropriate recommendations for placement. Additionally, not having any involvement in case management avoids any risk of bias.

Over the years, the feedback from FaCS has spotlighted the quality of our assessment services and its benefits for children. In addition to delivering quality results, we also deliver significant time savings in the administration of your overall placement process.

Assessments whenever, wherever

We have assessors available throughout NSW and much of Australia.

We can respond quickly and effectively to suit the needs of CSCs and carers, even in evenings and on weekends.

Experience and expertise

- We were approved for the first FaCS Service Agreement in 2008 and again in 2010 and now in 2012—unbroken support in assessment services for FaCS OOHC
- We have performed thousands of assessments for OOHC, including Relative and Kinship Care, Foster Care (Step by Step) and Carer Reviews
- We assess in all NSW regions and locations, as well as performing assessments on behalf of FaCS in other states
- Our assessors have an average of more than 10 years' experience
- Each and every assessment is separately quality reviewed by specialists in the field
- Our reports go into detailed analysis, which allows you to make supportable and defensible recommendations.

Our services

We offer a range of Out of Home Care assessments for government, NGO and community service providers.

The child welfare assessments we perform include:

- Relative and Kinship Care Assessments
- Foster Care Assessments
- Restoration Assessments
- Carer Review Assessments
- Disability Assessments.

Our capabilities

People

We select from the best and most qualified professionals in their sectors around Australia. Our extensive team has hundreds of highly qualified allied health professionals who are rigorously selected, vetted, inducted, trained and reviewed continually. They maintain their relationship with us for many years.

When you run into restraints on time, skills and location, or the assessments task or volume is too complex or large, you can be confident you have all of those issues covered by CWA.

And when you use CWA, you liberate your own resources to focus on providing the services in which you specialise.

Specialised skills, including disability assessments

CWA works only in child welfare. As a leading assessment company, we are selective in resourcing assessors that exactly fit FaCS's needs.

We also recognise that some children or young people who enter the OOHC system have some degree of disability or learning difficulty (*Audit of Children and Young People in Out-of-Home Care Services, 2001*). Through Assessments Australia's disability assessments unit, we can also provide FaCS with assessment services that cover disability – all in one seamless operation.

Flexible and available

We can structure assessments flexibly around your clients' needs.

We accommodate evening and weekend assessments, and can adjust our available assessor numbers to suit periods of high demand or seasonality in FaCS's activities.

With unbroken approval to assess on your behalf anywhere in NSW, we continue to bring the same consistency and quality regardless of when and where our services are needed.

Robust, transparent business systems

Our proprietary online management system (OMS) gives you real time access to the status of your referrals. It lets you track your assessments every step of the way wherever you are and whenever you like. All assessment activity by all our assessors is in one place, available any time.

Scalable services

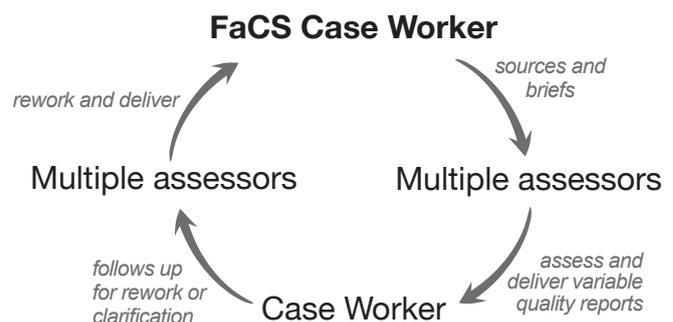
With our focus on FaCS, and systems designed to flex with your needs, you can choose to scale up or scale down your assessment needs. You can go from a single referral to an assessment program of hundreds.

WITH CWA



With CWA, you have a single point of contact who takes responsibility for the assessment, quality assurance and the timely delivery of the final report. Having CWA take on this administrative burden lets you get on with what you need to do.

WITHOUT CWA



Benefits for FaCS

Independent assessment services

We are an independent, peer reviewed child welfare assessment organisation. We do nothing else, which means our work is rigorous, objective and free from bias. This independence and focus on assessments allows us to continually improve our capabilities and processes and to work closely with you to achieve the outcomes that will help you and your carers.

Reassurance in quality

Every OOHC report goes through a rigorous quality assurance process by senior assessors with QA training. That means reassurance in the accuracy and validity of our reports.

National presence

CWA has a strong presence in all eastern states, especially in New South Wales. We can also deploy quality, nationwide resources at speed. You have access to a trusted team of the size and kind you want, on call.

Best practice teams

Through rigorous recruitment, vetting, selection, induction and training, we tightly control the quality of our team.

Trust through experience

CWA has proved its credentials to FaCS through thousands of successful OOHC assessments throughout New South Wales—over 2,600 assessments since 2008.

Access assessment specialists anytime, anywhere

Partnering with CWA lets you access a comprehensive team of child welfare assessment specialists ready for deployment anytime, anywhere. Take advantage of our extensive network of assessors and their flexibility.

Track and control. You choose.

Our proprietary Online Management System allows you real time, online tracking of the complete assessments process, from planning to reports. That level of information and detail adds a critical dimension to your resource management, forecasting and financial control.

Accountability

You need partners focused on one issue only—quality assessments that allow informed decisions. That's all we do. With that intensity of focus, we're fully accountable at all times for the style, conduct and outcome of every assessment.

Maximise quality, minimise risk

No other assessment services supplier provides our level of peer review. Where most rely on the observations of the assessor alone, we provide at least a second, and often a third level of specialist assessor appraisal for every assessment.

How we work with you

Increasing numbers of children are entering OOHC each year. FaCS is under growing pressure to manage the volume of placements, particularly when they are needed quickly.

CWA eases the pressure by providing a single point of contact for timely, quality-assured, objective assessments. We help by conducting assessments that may be difficult because of time, location or complexity. By partnering with CWA, you can be sure that you have the time and resources to manage your caseload effectively.

We ensure that you have the resources you want, when and where you need them.

Responsive to your needs

Our holistic approach gives you access to all of the professional capabilities, systems support and resources you need for assessments with a single point of contact.

Contact us

Contact us today for an obligation-free discussion of options to make your assessments task simple, professional and sustainable.

Email us:

cwa@cwassessments.com.au

or contact one of our offices:

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