



CHILD AND YOUTH WELLBEING STRATEGY

State Budget Submission 2026/27

A whole of government strategy for
the wellbeing of all Western Australian children.

Executive Summary

Children and Young People in Western Australia (WA) are confronted with a range of substantial and growing challenges, including poverty, mental health issues, limited access to timely and quality health care, educational vulnerabilities, and environmental concerns. Recent data indicates that approximately 17 percent of children in WA live in poverty, with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children experiencing rates nearly double the State average. Alarming, one in seven young Western Australians report symptoms consistent with anxiety or depression, and suicide remains the leading cause of death among those aged 15–24. Educational vulnerabilities are evident, with one in five children entering primary school not meeting the Australian Early Development Census benchmarks for language, literacy, and emotional maturity.

These vulnerabilities manifest in issues such as poor literacy and numeracy skills, irregular school attendance, and limited access to early learning opportunities. Migrant children, particularly those from refugee backgrounds such as communities from Syria, Afghanistan, and South Sudan, often face additional barriers including interrupted schooling, trauma, and language difficulties.

Despite WA's considerable economic resources, many children continue to experience persistent poverty, mental health crises, and developmental disadvantage as they begin their schooling years. To address these complex and intersecting challenges, a coordinated strategy is urgently required—one that spans government and community sectors. Such a strategy should include increased funding for mental health services within schools, targeted support and culturally safe programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, and robust cross-sector partnerships aimed at reducing poverty.

By integrating efforts across health, education, and social services, and ensuring that the voices of children and families are central to policy development, WA can deliver more effective and equitable outcomes for all children and young people.

This State Budget submission urges the WA Government to invest in and deliver a whole-of-government **Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy** for children aged 0–17. While data, frameworks, and government plans are in place, WA still lacks a unified approach to tackling the complex and intersecting challenges confronting our children. A comprehensive strategy would ensure resources are allocated efficiently, services are better integrated, and children receive holistic support tailored to their individual needs, ultimately improving outcomes for children and young people throughout the State.

About The Valuing Children Initiative

We believe valuing children is everybody's business and all members of community have a responsibility to ensure children feel valued and have opportunities to thrive. We are dedicated making the needs of children and young people a priority in Australia. Despite the abundance of knowledge and resources, we continue to witness poor outcomes for children and young people due to a lack of prioritisation.

The Valuing Children Initiative is dedicated to changing societal attitudes and making the needs of children and young people a priority. We do this through our work around advocacy, research, education, campaigning, and partnerships to raise awareness and effect meaningful change. We also collaborate with stakeholders, policymakers, like-minded organisations and people to create a collective positive impact on child well-being.

At the Valuing Children Initiative, we acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the Traditional Custodians of this Country and its waters, particularly the Whadjuk Noongar people whose boodja (country) we are founded on. We wish to pay respect to the Elders past, present and emerging, particularly our children and young people and future decision makers. The Valuing Children Initiative wishes to acknowledge the rights of all koolankas (children in Noongar) and we wholeheartedly endorse the United Nations Conventions of the Rights of the Child.

We want to say to all children everywhere, you matter, and you are valued.

Key Components of a Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy

- Monitors and responds to the wellbeing of children from 0-17 years old.
- Child Impact Assessments across all departments.
- Parliamentary Oversight via a Child Wellbeing Committee.
- Data-Driven Accountability including but not limited to Australian Early Development Census (AEDC), National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN), Wellbeing Monitoring Framework, and Child and Young People Development Atlas.
- Cultural Safety & Co-Design with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander governance and child voice frameworks.
- Early Intervention Focus to reduce long-term costs and outcomes.
- Intersectional Inclusion addressing overlapping vulnerabilities.

Expected Outcomes

- Reduction in child poverty and food insecurity.
- Improved mental health access and reduced suicide and self-harm rates.
- Increased school readiness and developmental outcomes.
- Achieve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children under the Closing the Gap initiatives
- Greater inclusion and safety for LGBTQIA+, and disabled children.
- Enhanced coordination across government and community sectors.

VCI State Budget 2026/27 Recommendations

The Valuing Children Initiative (VCI) is advocating for a dedicated strategy that aligns services and decision-making with the real and diverse needs of WA's children. A comprehensive Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy would embed accountability, prioritise early intervention, and help drive systemic change.

Such a strategy must prioritise the wellbeing of children from pre-birth, birth and until they turn 18 and be driven by the voices and experiences of children and young people themselves.

A Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy for WA must:

- co-design with children and young people a multi-domain framework that defines, measures and reports to Parliament on Child Wellbeing ensuring accountability from State Cabinet and government departments;
- embed Child and Youth Impact Assessment processes into every government department;
- implement a Child Poverty Reduction Act to define, monitor and respond to rising numbers of children living in poverty;
- create an additional parliamentary committee to evaluate laws and Treasury decisions and budgets that impact children;
- strengthen the Statement of Commitment to Child Safety and Wellbeing to ensure reporting to Parliament on funding, policy, and service delivery programs from each department;
- honour children's rights (UNCRCⁱ), cultural safety, trauma-informed care by developing and funding a children's voices framework in a safe co-design process;
- co-design with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders and children in all aspects of child policy and service delivery, as well as supporting the Aboriginal-led wellbeing programs that already exist;
- use evidence and data to guide investment and track progress from tools such as the Wellbeing Monitoring Frameworkⁱⁱ, Indicators of Wellbeing, the Child and Youth Wellbeing Atlasⁱⁱⁱ, NAPLAN^{iv}, ICSEA, AEDC^v SNAICC – National Voice for Our Children^{vi};
- expand investment in place-based child and family hubs; and
- fund play-based participation across the community in all places where children spend time.

Why WA Urgently Needs a Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy

Introduction

While WA is equipped with a wealth of data, tools, and expert recommendations, we remain without a dedicated, cross-sector Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy to address the needs and desires of children, where they live, play and learn.

The Commissioner for Children and Young People in WA (CCYP) is an independent statutory officer established under the Commissioner for Children and Young People Act 2006. The CCYP has developed a Wellbeing Monitoring Framework^{vii}, which includes a profile of children and young people, indicators of wellbeing, and recommendations arising from regular engagement from children through the Speaking Out Survey. Through the Survey, children devote extensive amounts of time telling adults what they want to live good lives in WA^{viii}, however their views are largely ignored, because WA lacks a strategy and budgetary process to implement these ideas.

Children are speaking

Every few years the CCYP conducts a Speaking Out Survey^{ix} to ask children about the views of their wellbeing. Despite these findings being reported to parliament, a comparison between the 2019 and 2021 CCYP Speaking Out Surveys reveals that many key findings from 2019 worsened in 2021.

Mental health remained a major concern, with a rising number of students experiencing emotional distress. The gender wellbeing gap persisted, with female students consistently reporting lower levels of wellbeing than males. Concerns about safety remained prominent and even worsened in 2021, with many students identifying adults as the perpetrators of physical violence.

The 2021 survey also revealed several areas where student wellbeing had declined since 2019.

- Students gave less favourable ratings of their physical health, and fewer reported that they saw their life as the best possible, while more—particularly in high school—rated their life as the worst possible.
- Mental health emerged as an even greater source of stress, though more students found support through parents, online counselling, and helplines.
- Engagement in indoor activities such as internet use, gaming, reading, and homework increased.
- Reports of being sent unwanted sexual material rose among both male and female students.
- Family dynamics appeared to worsen, with fewer students saying their family gets along very well.
- Students placed less importance on attending school every day, more reported feeling unsafe at school, and a growing number of female students felt they were not involved in decisions that affect them.

Alignment with Government Priorities

This strategy supports Western Australians offering valuable alignment with the WA Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Services Plan, the Western Australian Aboriginal Health and Wellbeing Framework, the Early Years Initiative, and the State Disability Strategy are all significant policies that address aspects of child and youth wellbeing.

Youth Action Plan

The Youth Action Plan is a core element of the proposed Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy, however, is only designed for young people aged 12 and above. It aims to create safe spaces for youth engagement, amplify youth voices in policy development, and strengthen community connections through targeted programs and partnerships.

The Youth Action Plan is reviewed annually, with progress monitored against clear outcome indicators, ensuring ongoing responsiveness to the evolving needs of young people in WA. Expansion of this plan for children aged birth to 18 would provide researchers, policymakers and government decision makers with a better picture of the whole child.

Other parallel WA strategies include the Youth Justice Framework, which aims to reduce youth offending and improve outcomes for young people involved with the justice system. Integrating youth justice within a comprehensive Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy would help address the intersecting challenges faced by vulnerable young people in WA.

Play Strategy

While other states have recognised the importance of play in child development, WA is the first to implement a dedicated Play Strategy^x, highlighting its commitment to enhancing early childhood experiences. The WA Play Strategy recognises play as essential for the healthy development and wellbeing of children and young people. By promoting access to safe, inclusive, and stimulating play environments—both indoors and outdoors—the strategy supports physical health, emotional resilience, social skills, and creativity. It aligns closely with child wellbeing priorities by fostering environments where children can engage in free, guided, and structured play, helping to build confidence, nurture friendships, and encourage positive risk-taking.

This approach complements broader wellbeing initiatives by advocating for equitable play opportunities across communities, including targeted support for children with disabilities and those from diverse backgrounds. Through partnerships with local councils, schools, and community organisations, the WA Play Strategy ensures that play is embedded as a fundamental right and a central pillar of child wellbeing policy, contributing to the holistic development of Western Australian children.

Child Safety

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse led to the development of 10 Child Safe Standards, emphasising community prevention. In 2018, the Australian Human Rights Commission introduced 10 National Principles for Child Safe Organisations, aligned with the 2005 National Framework. By 2019, these principles were endorsed by the Council of Australian Governments, including Western Australia.

In 2023, The Departments of Communities, Education, Health, Justice, Mental Health Commission, Premier and Cabinet, WA Police and the former Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries now Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety endorsed the Commitment to Child Safety and Wellbeing^{xi}.

The commitment outlined steps to:

- create an environment where children's rights, needs and interests are met and their safety and wellbeing are the focus of organisation value and actions;
- provide opportunities for children and young people to have their voice heard and participate in decisions that affect them;
- create conditions that reduce the likelihood of harm to children and young people; and
- have mechanisms in place that support the early identification of harm, and prompt appropriate responses to disclosures, allegations or concerns regarding children's safety and wellbeing.

While endorsing the commitment shows intent, publicly available information on action within those Government departments must follow.

Family and Domestic Violence Strategy

The WA State Government has prioritised addressing family and domestic violence through a dedicated strategy that recognises the significant impact these issues have on children. The strategy emphasises a coordinated, whole-of-government approach, focusing on prevention, early intervention, and support for those affected. It includes measures to improve safety for children exposed to violence, strengthen support services for families, and enhance collaboration across agencies to better identify and respond to risk. By centring the needs of children in policy and practice, the strategy aims to break cycles of harm and promote long-term wellbeing for young Western Australians.

Data, Accountability, and Strategic Opportunity

While WA also utilises the Health and Wellbeing Surveillance System (HWSS) and the Speaking Out Survey to monitor the health and wellbeing of children and young people other states have established more robust data collection and monitoring systems. For instance, the Australian Child and Youth Wellbeing Atlas^{xii} provides a comprehensive data asset that maps information on children and young people aged 0 to 24 in communities across Australia, enabling the visualisation, analysis, and monitoring of health and wellbeing metrics.

However, despite the breadth of available datasets, significant gaps remain—particularly in capturing the experiences of marginalised groups and the impact of services across diverse communities—highlighting the need for improved and integrated data collection practices.

WA has the tools: the Wellbeing Monitoring Framework,^{xiii} the Child Development Atlas,^{xiv} NAPLAN,^{xv} AEDC,^{xvi} and more. But data without coordinated action is not enough.

A Child Wellbeing Strategy would provide the governance mechanism to:

- Monitor and report on child outcomes across regions;
- Identify service gaps and direct investment to areas of greatest need; and
- Evaluate programs in real time using lived experience and outcome data.

Children making decisions that affect them

The internationally recognised Lundy Model^{xvii} of Child Participation emphasises that children's voices should only be sought when they have a genuine opportunity to influence decisions, involving them without any intention of acting on their views is not only tokenistic but can be exploitative. True participation requires space, voice, audience, and influence—ensuring children are heard meaningfully and their input leads to real impact.

Current Challenges Facing Children in WA – Issues, Statistics & Solutions

Intersectionality of Challenges Faced by Children

Children in WA face a complex and interconnected web of challenges that significantly impact their health, development, and overall wellbeing that compound disadvantage and deepen vulnerability. Understanding the intersectionality of these issues is essential to developing effective, inclusive, and culturally responsive policies and services.

Child poverty is increasing at record levels. Children in poverty often lack access to adequate nutrition, stable housing, and educational resources, which can hinder their development and increase their exposure to stress and trauma.

For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, who make up a significant proportion of those living in regional and remote areas, the impacts of poverty are intensified by intergenerational trauma, systemic racism, and historical policies of forced child removal. These children are disproportionately represented in the child protection, education, youth justice and out-of-home care (OOHC) systems.^{xviii} Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in Western Australia have the highest rates of suicide in the nation 35.2 per 100,000^{xix} and it is the leading cause of death of First Nations children in Australia.

Refugee, asylum seeker, migrant and CALD (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse) children face additional barriers, including language difficulties, cultural dislocation, and limited access to services. These children may also carry trauma from displacement, persecution and conflict, which can affect their mental health and integration into Australian society.

Mental health and suicide are critical concerns across all demographics, but particularly among Aboriginal youth and those in contact with the youth justice system.

Children in custody often present with multiple mental health disorders and high levels of psychological distress yet are frequently turned away from services due to the complexity of their needs.^{xx}

Children with disabilities face challenges accessing inclusive education, healthcare, and social participation. When disability intersects with poverty, regional isolation, or cultural marginalisation, the barriers to support become even more pronounced.

Similarly, LGBTQIA+ children may experience discrimination, social exclusion, and mental health struggles, especially when living in communities with limited understanding or acceptance of diverse identities.

Safety concerns, including exposure to family and domestic violence, child sexual abuse, and alcohol and other drug (AOD) use, are prevalent across many vulnerable groups. These experiences often lead to involvement with child protection services and can result in placement in OOHC, which itself can be a source of instability and trauma. The lack of parental leave and support for caregivers further exacerbates stress within families, reducing their capacity to provide safe and nurturing environments.

Children living in regional and remote areas face compounded disadvantage due to limited access to healthcare, education, and early intervention services. They are more likely to be developmentally vulnerable, socially isolated, and exposed to poverty and violence. Nutrition and obesity are also pressing issues, with children in disadvantaged areas more likely to consume unhealthy diets and engage in sedentary lifestyles, contributing to long-term health risks.

The intersectionality of these challenges means that children who belong to multiple vulnerable groups—such as an Aboriginal child with a disability living in a remote area, or a refugee child experiencing poverty and trauma—face compounded risks that cannot be



addressed by siloed interventions. These overlapping identities and experiences require holistic, culturally safe, and trauma-informed approaches that recognise the full spectrum of a child's context. Without such approaches, efforts to improve child wellbeing risk overlooking those most in need and perpetuating cycles of disadvantage.

Image 1

Learning from Other States (Appendix 1)

New South Wales has a dedicated Office for Youth which is led by the Advocate for Children and Young People^{xxi}, which oversees a whole-of-government approach to child wellbeing.

The WA Child and Community Services Act (2004)^{xxii} is a reactive act; it focuses on child protection and attempting to maximise the safety and wellbeing of a child that may be, or is in need of protection without including prevention or early intervention. The Act includes matters such as power to keep child under six years of age in hospital, power to move child to a safe place, responsible parenting orders, court matters and the employment of children.

Meanwhile, Victoria's Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005 establishes a legislative framework for child wellbeing. This Act is more proactive and focuses on early-intervention and prevention as well as reportable conduct, crisis and child protection. Services and policies should be guided by principles that recognise society's shared responsibility for children's wellbeing, prioritise child safety and development, respect parental roles with limited government intervention unless necessary, and ensure access to early education.

The Act also focuses on the compliance with the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations and includes a Minister for Children and Children's council,^{xxiii} which promotes co-ordination of government programs that impact children and reports to government about policies and services that can enhance the health, wellbeing, development and safety.

Tasmania's "It Takes a Tasmanian Village" (2021–25) launched in 2021, is a long-term, whole-of-government plan to improve outcomes for children and young people aged 0–25.^{xxiv} It emphasises the first 1,000 days of life as critical for development and is built around six wellbeing domains, including healthy, participating, learning, material basics, identity & culture and feeling values, loved and safe.^{xxv} This shared framework enables coordinated support across sectors.

Shaped by over 3,500 public contributions and co-design with children the strategy reflects the lived experiences of children, families, and communities, especially those facing disadvantage. Backed by \$100 million over four years, it includes 65 initiatives such as early childhood support, mental health services, and youth engagement programs. Annual reporting ensures transparency and accountability.

Tasmania's model offers key lessons for Western Australia: the value of early intervention, a common definition of wellbeing, inclusive consultation, and place-based, cross-sector collaboration. It shows how strategic, community-informed investment can drive real change in child wellbeing.

NSW's Strategic Plan for Children and Young People (2022–24) New South Wales launched its Strategic Plan for Children and Young People in 2022, marking a significant step toward a whole-of-government commitment to uplift the wellbeing of all children and young people aged 0 to 24 ^{xxvi}. The Plan emphasises strengths-based goals and six-key commitments: hope for the future, love, connection and safety, health and wellbeing, a good start of living, environments for joy and fun and respect and acceptance - focusing on what is desirable rather than deficits.

Development of the strategy included extensive engagement, with successive annual tracking reports from 2022 to 2024 capturing shifts in young people's experiences. The strategy is accompanied by a broader NSW Performance and Wellbeing Framework^{xxvii} that measures service outcomes and quality of life across eight wellbeing themes—such as “Healthy,” “Connected,” and “Secure”—providing a data-informed foundation for policy and accountability.

Victoria's “Our Promise, Your Future”^{xxviii} embeds youth voice, reforms mental health services for children and families, and uses place-based supports like those in Geelong. The strategy expresses a vision of making the state the best place for young people to grow up, thanks to leadership guided by thousands of insights gathered from Youth Congress participants across 2020–2022. Complementing this is Victoria's “Healthy Kids, Healthy Futures”^{xxix} five-year action plan, designed to promote lifelong wellbeing through healthy lifestyles, mental health support, and supportive environments—especially as young people emerge from the disruptions of the pandemic.

A parallel focus on mental health saw the establishment of a reformed service system separating support into two streams—one for infants, children, and families (0–11 years), and a second for youth (12–25 years)—to ensure developmentally appropriate, integrated care across local hubs and mental health services^{xxx}. The Geelong program also offers screening in schools for homelessness and when children and families are determined to be at risk, then wrap-around supports are provided offering a place-based approach to early-intervention^{xxxi}.

South Australia's Outcomes Framework tracks child wellbeing and informs services through integrated, human-rights-based approaches. South Australia anchors its approach in its “Outcomes Framework for Children and Young People,” a long-term strategy designed to guide and monitor child wellbeing from birth to 18 years.^{xxxii} It defines a “good life” through dimensions such as wellbeing, health, safety, education, and preparation for adulthood, supported by a Charter outlining 20 essential conditions—grounded in human rights—while enabling the tracking of inequalities and informing cross-government collaboration.

Implementing this framework, South Australia's “Child Wellbeing Program” works directly with school-aged children and families facing complex challenges, offering tailored, collaborative supports in settings such as schools and allied services.^{xxxiii} The approach emphasises embedding the voices of children and families in service design and funding allocation, shifting toward early intervention strategies and community capacity-building. In Parliament, the SA Government recently introduced landmark legislation—the Children and Young People (Safety and Support) Bill 2024—capped with a vision of transforming child protection and support systems via systemic reform guided by community and sector engagement.^{xxxiv}

Child and Youth Impact Assessment Tools (Appendix 2)

A Child Impact Assessment provides a structured template for agencies to:

- screen proposals for impacts on children;
- conduct a full assessment if necessary;
- consult with children and relevant stakeholders; and
- evaluate and mitigate positive and negative outcomes.

Many States and the Human Rights Commission have developed Child Impact Assessment Tools through their Commissioners, for all new policies and legislation affecting children. This

ensures that the potential impacts on children's rights and wellbeing are considered in the policymaking process. However, no Australian state or territory has a *regulated/mandatory* child-impact (or child-rights-impact) assessment built into law for policymaking. States and agencies use voluntary tools and guidance instead-e.g. the Australian Human Rights Commission's national CRIA toolkit^{xxxv} and WA Commissioner's child-impact guidelines^{xxxvi}- however these aren't mandated in state legislation.

Conclusion: A Turning Point for WA

WA has the tools, data, and community will. What's missing is a unifying strategy and budgetary commitment. This submission presents a cost-effective, evidence-based plan to ensure every child in WA can grow up safe, healthy, and supported.

Western Australia has the opportunity, and responsibility, to do better for its children. The challenges are not new, but the current moment demands a new response: bold, strategic, and child-centred.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child Art.12 states that children have a right to have their views heard and have a say when adults make decision that impact them (UNICEF Australia, n.d.).^{xxxvii} The WA government should also include the voices of children in the co-design of the strategy, as in Tasmania's Child Wellbeing Framework, using the Lundy Model of Child Participation including children of all groups to ensure that children's voices are heard in a safe and influential way. This will ensure that the strategy is tailored to what is important to children.

A Child Wellbeing Strategy is not just policy, it is a commitment to every child's right to grow up safe, healthy, and supported. It is how WA can move from crisis response to prevention, from silos to collaboration, and from missed opportunities to lasting change.

VCI contact:

Sarah Quinton

Development Executive, The Valuing Children Initiative

squinton@valuingchildren.com.au

www.valuingchildreninitiative.com.au

(08) 9325 6644

456 Hay St, Perth, WA 6000

Appendix

1. Learning from Other States

Jurisdiction	Strategy Name	Key Features	Funding Commitment
Western Australia	Proposed Whole-of-Government Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy.	Cultural safety, early intervention, child impact assessments, Aboriginal governance, play strategy.	Not yet committed.
Tasmania	It Takes a Tasmanian Village (2021–25).	Whole-of-government, early years focus, six wellbeing domains, co-design with children.	\$100 million over 4 years.
New South Wales	Strategic Plan for Children and Young People (2022–24).	Strengths-based goals, six commitments, annual tracking, wellbeing framework.	Not specified.
Victoria	Our Promise, Your Future & Healthy Kids, Healthy Futures.	Youth voice, mental health reform, place-based supports, early intervention.	Not specified.
South Australia	Outcomes Framework for Children and Young People.	Human rights-based, wellbeing charter, cross-government collaboration, legislation reform.	Not specified.

2. Child Impact Assessment Tools around Australia

Jurisdiction	Regulated mandatory CRIA?	What exists (tool / guidance / note)	Key source
Commonwealth (federal)	No (no mandatory CRIA across Australian government)	Australian Human Rights Commission (National Child Rights Impact Assessment tool / “Safeguarding Children” guidance) — promoted for use across jurisdictions (voluntary).	AHRC CRIA tool. (Australian Human Rights Commission)
Western Australia	No (not legislated)	Commissioner for Children & Young People WA published <i>Child Impact Assessment Guidelines</i> (2020) for agencies to use when assessing impacts on children (guidance, not law).	CCYP WA guidelines (PDF). (Commissioner for Children WA)
New South Wales	No	NSW uses Child Safe frameworks and some agencies (prescribed agencies) must publish Child Safe Action Plans; child safety obligations are embedded in legislation, but there is no statutory, government-wide CRIA requirement .	NSW Child Safe Action Plans / DCJ child safe policy. (Office of the Children's Guardian, Communities and Justice)
Victoria	No	Victoria uses general impact assessment guidance via Better Regulation Victoria (RIS / LIAs) and child protection practice frameworks (e.g. SAFER children) — but no legislated CRIA across government .	Vic.gov.au impact assessment guidance; SAFER framework. (Victorian Government, cpmanual.vic.gov.au)
Queensland	No	Queensland Family & Child Commission publishes a Child Rights Report and monitors child rights; QFCC and others promote CRIA use, but there's no statutory CRIA required across government .	QFCC Child Rights Report 2023. (Queensland Family and Child Commission)
South Australia	No	Child protection legislation (Children and Young People (Safety) Act etc.) includes assessment duties in child protection practice (e.g. cumulative harm guidance), but no government-wide legislated CRIA .	SA guidance on cumulative harm / child protection. (DHS)
Tasmania	No	Tasmanian child-safety/strategy materials reference embedding child rights and the potential use of CRIAs; the Commissioner and strategy documents encourage CRIA use but not a legal mandate.	Tasmanian Change for Children / Commissioner comments. (CCYP , Keeping Children Safe)

Jurisdiction	Regulated mandatory CRIA?	What exists (tool / guidance / note)	Key source
Northern Territory	No	NT has child protection legislation and frameworks; no evidence of a legislated CRIA requirement across government (practice guidance and protection frameworks instead).	NT child protection frameworks. (Department of Children and Families)
Australian Capital Territory (ACT)	No	ACT has rights/charter materials for children in care and child safety measures but no statutory, jurisdiction-wide CRIA requirement .	ACT children, youth & families pages. (ACT Government)

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